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1999

# CHESTER
# NEW HAMPSHIRE
# ANNUAL REPORTS

## for the Fiscal Year Ending
## June 30, 1999

## Town Elections: May 9, 2000
## Town Meeting: May 10, 2000

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# Table of Contents

Auditor's Report ..... 23
Budget ..... Colored Section
Budget Advisory Committee Report ..... Colored Section
Building Inspector's Report ..... 31
CTV-51 ..... 50
Chester Community Food Pantry ..... 58
Chester Road Name Advisory Committee Report ..... 55
Chester Village Cemetery ..... 51
Conservation Commission Report ..... 40
Exeter River Watershed ..... 43
Financial Reports ..... 16
Fire Department Report ..... 36
Forest Fire Report ..... 38
Highway Safety Committee Report ..... 30
Library Report ..... 26
Planning Board Report ..... 28
Police Department Report ..... 35
Recreation Commission Report ..... 45
Recycling/Solid Waste Committee Report ..... 48
Selectmen's Report ..... 8
Sexual Assault Support Program ..... 59
Spring Hill Farms Report ..... 53
Strategic Land Protection Report ..... 56
Statement of Appropriations ..... 11
Summary of Inventory Valuations ..... 14
Tax Rate Computation ..... 15
Town Officers ..... 3
Warrant ..... Colored Section
Zoning Board of Adjustment Report ..... 24

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# Town Officers

**Moderator**
Michael Scott - 2000
Walt St. Clair - Assistant Moderator

**Representative to the General Court**
Jon Beaulieu - 2000
Albert W. Hamel - 2000

**Selectmen**
Andrew L. Hadik, Chairman - 2001
Colin M. Costine - 2002
Charlotte A. Lister - 2000

**Administrative Assistant**
Victoria Mac Laughlin

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector**
Barbara L. Gagnon - 2002

**Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector**
Linda Mansur

**Treasurer**
Patricia Murphy

**Deputy Treasurer**
Deborah Costine
Cynthia Tunberg

**Fire Chief**
Stephen Tunberg

**Road Agent**
Carl Morin - 2000

**Chief of Police**
Alfred Wagner

**Supervisors of the Checklist**
Janice Jeans - 2005
Virginia Beaulieu - 2000
Louise Nutt - 2000

**Trustees of Trust Funds**
Joseph O'Brien - 2000

**Library Trustees**
Linda Heuer, Chairman - 2000
Jeff Woodruff, Secretary - 2000
Eric Nyberg - 2001
Deb Munson, Treasurer - 2002
Elizabeth Berry - 2002

**Great Hill Cemetery Trustees**
Steven Childs - 2004
Joseph Ouwerkerk, Jr. - 2001
Walt St. Clair - 2002
George Noyes - 2000
Wayne Towle - 2001

**Village Cemetery Trustees**
David Hoffman - 2004
_____ __ - 2000
Robert Jeans, Jr. - 2001

**Wilcomb-Townsend Home Fund Trustees**
Tina Butterfield - 2004
Barbara Dolloff - 2001
Cynthia Tunberg - 2003
Catherine Fogg - 2000
Isabelle Rand - 2002

## Appointments

**Budget Advisory Committee**
Donald Parnell, Chairman
Paul Kretschmer
Bruce Baker
Judy Wolcott

**Building Inspector/Zoning Officer**
David Jore

**Environmental Compliance Officer**
Brad Wamsley

**Cable Committee**
Lennie Stein, Chairman
Dick Godfrey
Hillary Hall
Dave Hardy

**Civil Defense/Emergency Management**
Scott St. Clair, Director
William Boynton, Deputy Director
John Cadieux, Deputy Director
Scott Rice - Communications Officer

**Conservation Commission**

Brad Wamsley, Chairman - 2003
Catherine Arakelian - 2001
Maureen Lein - 2003
Camilla Lockwood - 2002 & Planning Board Rep.
Larry Benjamin - Alternate - 1999
Gregory Lowell, Sec. - 2000
David Hardy - 2001
Charles Myette - 2000
Gladys Nicoll - Honorary Member
Charlotte A. Lister, Selectmen's Rep.

**Edward's Mill Project Coordinator**

Robert Pike

**Exeter RiverWatershed Reps.**

Al Hamel
Cam Lockwood

**Forest Fire Warden**

Stephen Tunberg

**Deputy Fire Wardens**

Jack Cadieux
Scott St. Clair
Bruce McLaughlin
Steven W. Child
Arthur Dolloff
Kevin C. Scott

**Health Officer**

Darrell Quinn

**Historic District Commission Committee**

Colin Costine, Sel's Rep.
Ann Powers
Diane Methot - Alternate
Anya Bent
Louise Nutt

**Library**

Judith Balk - Library Director
Melissa Rossetti - Assistant Director

**Police Department**

Alfred J. Wagner, Chief
Leonard Leclair, Sergeant
Vaughn McGillen, Patrolman
Scott Haggart, Patrolman
Nelson Ortega, Patrolman
Alexander Castora, Deputy Chief
William Burke, Sergeant
Gerry Repucci, Patrolman
Harold Gardner, Patrolman
Paul Provincher, Patrolman

**Police Department Administrative Assistant**

Vaughn McGillen

**Planning Board**

Scott Rice - 2002
Richard Snyder, Chairman - 2000
Cynthia J. Robinson - Member/Administrative Assistant - 2002
Evan Sederquest - 2000
Camilla Lockwood - 2001
Stephen Landau - 2001
Carl Morin, Alternate - 2000
William Gregsak, Alternate
Andrew Hadik, Ex-Officio

**Recreation Committee**

Greg Lowell - Chairman
Debbie Burke
Linda Royce
Bob Henderson
Charlie Henderson

**Recycling/Solid Waste Committee**

Anne Pardo, Chairperson/Sec.
Paul Potter, Vice-Chairperson
Andrew L. Hadik, Sel's Representative
Bonnie Healey
Lloyd Healey
Charles Myette
J.R. Stephens

**Selectmen's Office - Secretary/Bookkeeper**

Victoria Mac Laughlin

**Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission**

Andrew L. Hadik
Albert Hamel - 2000

**Spring Hill Farm Trustees**

Miss. Muriel Church
Colin Costine
Rick Murray
Wayne Towle
Brad Wamsley

**Strategic Land Protection Committee**

David Hardy
Daniel Mullaney
Maureen Lein
Charlotte Lister
EvanSederquest
Richard Uncles

**Welfare Administrator**

Victoria Mac Laughlin

**Zoning Board of Adjustment**

Cynthia Herman, Chairman - 2000
Billie Maloney - 2000
Janet Boyden, Sec./Member - 2000
Janice Jeans - 2001
Jean G. Methot - 2001
Steph Landau - Planning Board Rep. - 1999

## Honorary Appointments

**Consulting Engineer and Maintenance Supervisor of the Town Chronometer**
Scott St. Clair

**Inspector of Grist Mills, Factories, and Sawmills**
Raymond Dolloff

**Keeper of Jacob Chase Horse Block**
Robert Nicoll

**Keeper of the Town Pound**
George Chaperon
Gladys Nichols

**Sealer of Weights and Measure**
Robert Dolloff
Robert Buelte

**Surveyor of Wood, Bark, and Lumber**
Leroy Noyes

**Town Historian**
Evelyn Noyes

**Weigher of Grain and Measurer of Hay and Provender**
Wayne Towle
Robert Healey

# Annual Report of the Board of Selectmen

The past year was filled with issues for the Board of Selectmen. The most time-consuming was the renovation of the old school into new Town offices and the future police station. MLM Construction was hired to manage the renovation.

The wonderful $300,000 donation for this project was allocated as follows: $100,000 for the municipal offices (~3500 sq. ft.), $190,000 for the police station (~4200 sq. ft.), and $10,000 for the rear boiler room etc. The renovation work varied greatly from room to room, so a more detailed description is given below.

**Town Clerk and Tax Collector's Office:** A 12'x18' masonry vault with concrete ceiling and self-contained climate control for storage of Town documents, a dual-workstation counter, partial rewiring, burglar and panic alarms, carpeting, tile flooring, and painting.

**Planning Board and Building Inspector's Office:** Abatement of 900 sq. ft. of asbestos flooring, an air handler* for heating and AC, thermo-pane windows, complete rewiring, lowered ceiling (to improve heating and cooling), energy efficient light fixtures, a panic alarm, carpeting, painting, and a workstation. (*This unit will also service the Conservation Commission and Voter Registration Office.)

**Meeting Room:** Installation of the spare roof-mounted AC unit from the Town Clerk's office, some wiring, carpeting, and painting.

**Administrative Office:** Burglar and panic alarms, carpeting, painting and closet shelving.

**Tax Assessor's Office:** A panic alarm, carpeting, and painting.

**Selectmen's Office / Copy Room:** Carpeting and painting.

**Main Bathrooms:** Abatement of 400 sq. ft. of asbestos flooring, ADA-compliant fixtures and enclosures, lowered ceilings, energy efficient light fixtures, tile flooring, new hall doors, and painting.

**Utility Room Etc.:** Abatement of asbestos flooring and ceiling in the rear boiler room, additional 200 amp service underground from rear boiler room to front boiler room, underground conduits for telephone and cable wiring from rear boiler room, and 32-circuit alarm panel.

**Police Station:** Due to the scope of this renovation, this portion of the building was essentially gutted. The work included abatement of 4200 sq. ft. of asbestos flooring, insulation of exterior walls and sections of ceiling, thermo-pane windows, complete rewiring, lowered ceilings, sheetrock, two air handlers with AC, a dispatch area, a booking area, two holding cells, two juvenile interview rooms, three bathrooms (one public, one each for male and female officers), conference and training rooms, evidence and weapons storage, and a water pressure tank.

**Employee Break Room:** During the renovation, a citizen came forward with a generous donation specifically for renovation of a very small room as an employee lunchroom. This gift included asbestos flooring abatement, new carpeting, a sink, countertop and cabinetry, painting, a refrigerator, a microwave, and a coffee pot. On behalf of our employees, the Board would like to convey their appreciation of the kindness and thoughtfulness of this gift.

**Issues of note for Town Meeting:**

Although all the goals the Board set out to accomplish with the renovations have been met, there is additional work that still needs do be done. The most critical is the rewiring of the new municipal offices for Fire and ADA alarms. The cost of this will be $18,000. There really is no choice in this matter.

The Board also proposes that the remainder of the front third of the old school be renovated. Some additional office space and another meeting room is still required, as well as improvements for heating and electricity savings such as more thermo-pane windows, insulation, and energy efficient light fixtures. The total cost of this additional renovation is $200,000. The breakdown of costs is $65,000 for HVAC and power plant replacement, $35,000 to complete the asbestos abatement, $30,000 for thermo-pane windows, some new outer doors and siding, $30,000 for lowered ceilings, insulation, new doors, ADA hardware, and painting etc., $20,000 for electrical rewiring, and $20,000 for new flooring.

**The Board would also like to recognize and extend special thanks to:**

Col. Richardson D. Benton for his kind gift of a stone walkway through the historic Revolutionary War Era section of the Village Cemetery.

Mike Oleson and the crew of MLM Construction for doing such a nice job on the renovation projects.

All those involved in making Farm & Fiber Day such a success, especially Chief Al Wagner, Officer Vaugn McGillen, Barbara Hutchinson, and Sergeant Bill Burke.

All the employees who helped ensure the smooth transition to the new municipal building, particularly Cynthia Robinson, Barbara Gagnon, and Vicki MacLaughlin.

The citizens who volunteered their time and vehicles to chase down free furniture for the new municipal offices, particularly Cam Lockwood, Maureen Lein, and Cathy Arakelian.

All our wonderful citizens who volunteer their time on the many Town boards, commissions, committees, groups, troop.

In closing, we request that if you care about preserving the character of our town, please consider serving on a board or committee. Greater participation eases the burden on those already serving, and broadens the sense of community that makes Chester such a nice place to live!

The Board of Selectmen

Andrew L. Hadik
Colin M. Costine

# Statement of Appropriations 1999/2000

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **GENERAL GOVERNMENT** | | |
| Executive | 34,679 | TC |
| Election, Registration & Vital Statistic | 28,492 | TC |
| Financial Administration | 92,777 | TC |
| Revaluation of Property | 2,500 | TC |
| Legal Expense | 35,001 | TC |
| Personnel Administration | 27,100 | TC |
| Planning and Zoning | 38,093 | |
| General Government | 73,400 | |
| Cemeteries | 18,700 | TC |
| Insurance | 29,315 | TC |
| Advertising and Regional Associations | 2,037 | |
| **PUBLIC SAFETY** | | |
| Police | 226,775 | |
| Ambulance | 25,000 | |
| Fire & Forest Fires | 40,000 | |
| Bldg. Inspection | 34,325 | |
| Emergency Management | 1,000 | |
| Other Public Safety ( including Communications) | 5,000 | |
| **HIGHWAYS AND STREET** | | |
| Highways and Streets | 212,200 | |
| Street Lighting | 2,700 | TC |
| **SANITATION** | | |
| Solid Waste Disposal | 106,200 | |
| Solid Waste Clean-up | 19,200 | |
| **HEALTH** | | |
| Pest Control ACO | 2,200 | |
| Health Agencies and Hospitals & Administration | 12,816 | |
| **WELFARE** | | |
| Direct Assistance | 9,250 | |
| Intergovernmental Welfare Payments | 3,607 | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **CULTURE AND RECREATION** | | |
| Parks and Recreation | 14,891 | |
| Library | 60,880 | |
| Patriotic Purposes | 150 | |
| Other Culture and Recreation | 8,300 | |
| **CONSERVATION** | | |
| Other Conservation - Conservation Commission | 4,450 | |
| **SPRING HILL FARM CONSERVATION** | | |
| Spring Hill Farm Conservation | 2 ,500 | |
| **DEBT SERVICE** | | |
| Princ - Fire Truck Bond | 10,270 | |
| Princ - Transfer/Landfill Bond | 97,010 | TC |
| Princ - Fire Station | 24,000 | |
| Interest on TAN | 4,000 | |
| Interest - Fire Station Bond | 22,999 | |
| Interest - Transfer/Landfill Bond | 25,586 | |
| Interest - Fire Truck Bond | 270 | |
| **CAPITAL OUTLAY** | | |
| Machine, Veh & Equip (Cruiser) | 27,900 | |
| **CAPITAL RESERVE FUND** | | |
| Police Cruiser | 10,000 | |
| Historic Documents | 6,000 | |
| **OTHER** | | |
| Warrant Articles | 407,336 | |
| **TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS** | **$1,808,909** | |

***From MS-2**

## SOURCES OF REVENUE

| | |
|---|---|
| **TAXES** | |
| Land Use Change Tax | 50,000 |
| Yield Taxes | 5,000 |
| Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes | 35,000 |
| **LICENSES, PERMITS AND FEES** | |
| Motor Vehicle Permit Fees/Titles | 360,000 |
| Building Permits/Driveway Permits | 25,000 |
| Other Licenses, Permits & Fees (Dog Licenses/Town Fees) | 3,950 |
| **FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT** | |
| COPS Grant | 25,000 |
| **FROM STATE** | |
| Shared Revenue | 60,000 |
| Meals & Rooms Tax Dist | 48,043 |
| Highway Block Grant | 66,296 |
| State 20% TS/LF Grant | 12,555 |
| Hazardous Waste Day Reimbursement | 500 |
| **CHARGES FOR SERVICES** | |
| Income from Departments | 22,000 |
| **MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES** | |
| Rents of Property/Post Office | 10,975 |
| Fines and Forefeits | 700 |
| Health Insurance Reimbursements | 4,000 |
| Gifts from Non-Public Sources | 300,000 |
| Conservation Town Forest Management | 10,000 |
| Interest on Investments | 65,000 |
| Trust and Agency Funds | 1,200 |
| Other | 10,000 |
| **CAPITAL RESERVE** | |
| Capital Reserve (Police Cruiser | 27,900 |
| **TOTAL SOURCE OF REVENUES** | **$1,143,119** |

***From Revised MS-4**

# Summary Inventory of Valuation 1999

| **Value of Land Only** | **Acres** | **Valuation** |
|---|---|---|
| Current Use | 9,103.79 | $ 1,178,520 |
| Residential | 8,200.00 | 82,963,300 |
| Commercial/Industrial | 158.77 | 1,533,700 |
| **Total Taxable Land** | **17,533.78** | **$ 85,675,520** |
| **Total Exempt & Non- Taxable ($ 2,811,400)** | | |
| | | |
| **Value of Buildings Only** | | |
| Residential | | 115,683,900 |
| Manufactured Housing | | 150,200 |
| Commercial/Industrial | | 3,106,700 |
| **Total Taxable Buildings** | | **118,940,800** |
| | | |
| **Total Exempt & Non-Taxable ( $6,668,300)** | | |
| | | |
| **Public Utilities** | | **8,754,000** |
| | | |
| **Valuation Before Exemptions** | | **$213,370,320** |
| | | |
| **Exemptions** | | |
| Blind Exemption | | 30,000 |
| Elderly Exemption | | 4,755,000 |
| Physically Handicapped | | 6,428 |
| Solar/Windpower Exempt | | 28,000 |
| School Din/Dorm/Kitchen Exemp | | 150,000 |
| | | |
| **Total Dollar Amount of Exemption** | | **$ 4,819,428** |
| | | |
| **Net Valuation on Which Tax Rate is Computed** | | **$208,400,892** |

# 1999 Tax Rate Calculation

| | | Tax Rate |
|---|---|---|
| Appropriations | 1,802,457 | |
| Less: Revenues | 1,412,883 | |
| Less: Shared Revenues | 1,959 | |
| Add: Overlay | 202,296 | |
| Add: War Service Credits | 23,100 | |
| **Approved Town/City Tax Effort** | **$613,011** | **$2.97** |
| Due to Local School | 4,547,122 | |
| Due to Regional Schools | 0 | |
| Less: Adequate Education Grant | (1,150,623) | |
| State Education Taxes | (1,288,691) | |
| **Approved School Tax Effort** | **$2,107,808** | **$10.11** |
| **State Education Taxes** | | |
| **Equalized Valuation (no utilities)x** | **6.60** | |
| **195,256,163** | **$1,288,691** | |
| **Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)** | | **$ 6.45** |
| **196,646,892** | | |
| **Excess State Education Taxes to be Remitted to State** | **0** | |
| Due to County | 210,357 | |
| Less: Shared Revenues | 3,919 | |
| **Net County Tax Effort** | **$210,357** | **$1.01** |
| **COMBINED TAX RATE** | | **$20.54** |

## Commitment Analysis

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Property Taxes Assessed | $4,219,867 |
| Less: War Service Credit | (23,100) |
| Add: Village District Commitment | 0 |
| **Total Property Tax Commitment** | **$4,496,767** |

## Proof of Rate

| | Net Assessed Valuation | Tax Rate | Assessment |
|---|---|---|---|
| State Education Tax | $199,646,892 | $ 6.45 | $1,288,691 |
| All Other Taxes | 208,400,892 | 14.09 | $2,931,176 |

# Financial Report
## For Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999

### REVENUES

| | |
|---|---|
| **Revenue from Taxes** | |
| Property Taxes | $4,715,706 |
| Land Use Change Taxes | 134,777 |
| Yield Taxes | 15,031 |
| Excavation | 2,132 |
| Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes | 64,217 |
| **Total** | **4,931,863** |
| **Licenses and Permits** | |
| Motor Vehicle Permit Fees | 437,721 |
| Building Permits | 41,172 |
| Other Licences, Permits and Fees | 5,460 |
| **Total** | **484,353** |
| **Revenue from State of New Hampshire** | |
| Shared Revenue | 69,858 |
| Meals and Rooms | 48,043 |
| Highway Block Grants | 63,430 |
| Other Reimbursements | 28,606 |
| Federal | 5,000 |
| **Total** | **214,937** |
| **Revenue from Charges of Services** | |
| Income from Departments | **24,154** |
| **Revenue from Miscellaneous Sources** | |
| Interest on Investments | 66,341 |
| Rents of Property | 10,012 |
| Fines & Forfeits | 1,370 |
| Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements | 2,201 |
| Other | 15,390 |
| **Total** | **95,314** |
| **Other Financing Sources** | |
| **Operating Transfers in** | |
| **Interfund Transfers Trust Funds** | |
| Expendable | 42,332 |
| Nonexpendable | 2,204 |
| **Total Operating Transfers In** | **44,536** |
| **Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources** | **$5,795,157** |

## EXPENDITURES

| | |
|---|---|
| **General Government** | |
| Executive | $ 34,518 |
| Election, Registration and Vital Statistics | 29,870 |
| Financial Administration | 67,266 |
| Revaluation of Property | 762 |
| Legal Expenses | 76,409 |
| Personnel Administration | 20,475 |
| Planning and Zoning | 26,082 |
| General Government Building | 30,662 |
| Cemeteries | 16,877 |
| Insurance not Otherwise Allocated | 25,917 |
| Advertising and Regional Association | 1,961 |
| Other General Government | 396 |
| **Total General Government** | **331,195** |
| **Public Safety** | |
| Police | 197,587 |
| Ambulance | 25,000 |
| Fire | 39,430 |
| Building Inspection | 27,657 |
| Emergency Management | |
| Other Public Safety | 3,500 |
| **Total Public Safety** | **293,174** |
| **Highways and Streets** | |
| Highways and Streets | 207,170 |
| Bridges | |
| Street Lighting | 2,269 |
| **Total Highways and Streets** | **209,439** |
| **Sanitation** | |
| Solid Waste Disposal | 88,314 |
| Other | 19,547 |
| **Total Sanitation** | **107,861** |
| **Health** | |
| Animal Control | 1,677 |
| Health Agencies and Hospitals | 12,016 |
| **Total Health** | **$13,693** |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Welfare** | |
| Direct Assistance | 4,573 |
| Intergovernmental Payments | 3,789 |
| **Total Welfare** | **8,362** |
| | |
| **Culture and Recreation** | |
| Parks and Recreation | 9,716 |
| Patriotic Purposes | 150 |
| Other | 6,357 |
| **Total Culture and Recreation** | **16,223** |
| | |
| **Debt Service** | |
| Principal - Long Term Debt | 104,585 |
| Interest - Long Term Debt | 43,357 |
| Interest - Tax Anticipation Notes | |
| **Total Debt Service** | **147,942** |
| | |
| **Capital Outlay** | |
| Survey Town Right-of-Way | |
| Towle Road Bridge | |
| Dolloff Farm Development Rights | 180,000 |
| Candia Road Improvements | 27,962 |
| Revaluation of Town | 61,202 |
| Town Pound | |
| Growth Management Ordinance | |
| Electric Rate Study | |
| **Total Capital Outlay** | **269,164** |
| | |
| **Intergovernmental** | |
| School District Assessment | 3,971,690 |
| County Tax Assessment | 203,295 |
| **Total Intergovernmental** | **4,174,985** |
| | |
| **Total Expenditures** | **$5,572,038** |

# Balance Sheet

## ASSETS

| Current Assets | Beginning of Year | End of Year |
|---|---|---|
| Cash and Equivalents | $ 2,661,140 | $ 2,975,218 |
| Taxes Receivables | 475,951 | 659,163 |
| Tax Liens Receivable | 159,635 | 6,224 |
| Accounts Receivable | 833 | 2,204 |
| Due From Other Funds | 2,038 | |
| Other Current Assets | 56,400 | |
| **Total Assets** | **$ 3,355,997** | **$ 3,642,809** |

## LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY

| Current Liabilities | Beginning of Year | End of Year |
|---|---|---|
| Warrants and Accounts Payable | 18,318 | 74,637 |
| Due to Other Funds | | 7,223 |
| Deferred Revenue | 2,303,302 | 2,440,753 |
| **Total Liabilities** | **2,321,620** | **2,522,613** |

| Fund Equity | Beginning of Year | End of Year |
|---|---|---|
| Reserve for Encumbrances | 56,135 | 129,375 |
| Reserve for Special Purposes | 40,000 | |
| Unreserved Fund Balances | 938,242 | 990,821 |
| **Total Fund Equity** | **1,034,377** | **1,120,196** |
| **Total Liabilities and Fund Equity** | **$ 3,355,997** | **$ 3,642,809** |

# Comparative Detailed Revenue Report

| | July 97 - June 98 | July 98 - June 99 |
|---|---|---|
| **Property Tax Revenue** | | |
| 3110-1-001 Prop Tax Revenue - Cur | $4,592,962 | $4,680,599 |
| 3110-1-002 Prop Tax Revenue - Prior Yr | 151,834 | 180,760 |
| 3110-1-003 Prop Tax Overpayments | 30,289 | 122,354 |
| **Total** | $4,775,085 | $4,983,713 |
| | | |
| **Land Use Change Taxes** | | |
| 3120-1-001 Land Use Taxes Cur Yr | $81,463 | $93,575 |
| 3120-2-001 Land Use Taxes Prior Yr | | 47242 |
| **Total** | $81,463 | $140,817 |
| | | |
| **Yield Taxes** | | |
| 3185-1-001 Yield Taxes Current Yr | $1,212 | $8,354 |
| 3185-2-001 Yield Taxes Prior Yr | 786 | 6,677 |
| **Total** | $1,998 | $15,031 |
| | | |
| **Excavation Tax** | | |
| 3187-1-001 Excavation Tax Cur Yr | | $2,132 |
| 3187-2-001 Excavation Tax Prior Yr | | 2,129 |
| **Total** | | $4,261 |
| | | |
| **Penalties and Interest** | | |
| 3190-1-001 99 Property Tax Interest | $56,140 | $63,619 |
| 3190-3-001 Int of Land Use Change Tax | 390 | 478 |
| 3190-4-001 Int of Late Yield Tax | 48 | 119 |
| **Total** | $56,578 | $64,216 |
| | | |
| **Motor Vehicle Permit Fees** | | |
| 3220-2-001 Motor Vehicle Permit Fees | $381,862 | $475,843 |
| 3220-4-001 Motor Vehicle Title Fees | 274 | |
| **Total** | $382,136 | $475,843 |
| | | |
| **Building Permits** | | |
| 3230-1-001 Building Permits - Building | $22,459 | $35,554 |
| 3230-5-001 Driveway Permits | 3,600 | 6,575 |
| **Total** | $26,059 | $42,129 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Other Licenses, Permits and Fees** | | |
| 3290-1-001 Dog Licensees | $3,758 | $3,438 |
| 3290-2-001 Dog License Fines | 339 | 101 |
| 3290-7-001 Pistol Permits | 305 | 535 |
| 3290-9-001 Other Licenses & Permits | 3,352 | 3,429 |
| **Total** | $7,754 | $7,503 |
| | | |
| **Federal Funds Via State** | | |
| 3311-9-001 Funds Passed Through State | | $9,191 |
| 3319-1-001 Fed Gov't - Cops Fast Grant | 32,913 | 5,000 |
| 3319-1-002 US Treasury - FICA | | 36,802 |
| 3319-1-003 Highway Safety Grant | | 2,899 |
| 3350-1-001 Shared Revenue Block Grant | 66,302 | 69,858 |
| 3350-2-001 State of NH - Forest Fire | 126 | 122 |
| **Total** | $99,341 | $123,872 |
| | | |
| **Revenue From State** | | |
| 3353-1-001 Highway Block Grant | $61,567 | $63,430 |
| 3359-1-001 State Rooms and Meals Tax | 33,279 | 48,043 |
| 3359-1-003 State of NH FF Training | | 95 |
| 3359-1-002 State 20% TS/LF Grant | 24,954 | 12,359 |
| **Total** | $119,800 | $123,927 |
| | | |
| **Local Government Reimbursement** | | |
| 3379-3-001 Hazardous Waste Day | | $7,425 |
| **Total** | | $7,425 |
| | | |
| **Revenue from Charges for Services** | | |
| 3401-1-002 Insurance Reports | $845 | $850 |
| 3401-1-003 Police - Special Duty | 6,709 | 1,645 |
| 3401-1-004 State Witness Fees | 641 | 1,252 |
| 3401-2-001 Planning Board Fees | 4,665 | 15,114 |
| 3401-3-001 Zoning Board Fees | 1,081 | 1,660 |
| 3401-4-001 Landfill Fees | 4,529 | 1,508 |
| 3401-5-001 Recreation Dept | 1,749 | 2,125 |
| **Total** | $20,219 | $24,154 |
| | | |
| **Revenue from Miscellaneous Services** | | |
| 3503-1-001 Rents from Short Term Use | $12 | $12 |
| 3503-2-001 Rents from Post Office | 9,167 | 10,000 |
| 3504-1-001 Court Fines | 425 | 1,370 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3506-4-001 Health Insurance Reimb | | 2,201 |
| 3509-1-001 Misc Revenue - Other | 15,396 | 6,927 |
| 3509-1-003 Misc Revenue - Copies | 252 | 368 |
| 3509-1-002 Interest of Investments | 69,170 | 69,291 |
| 3509-1-004 Voter Checklist Printouts | | 50 |
| 3509-1-006 Vandalism Reimbursement | | 906 |
| 3509-2-001 Current Use Application Fees | 37 | 62 |
| **Total** | $94,459 | $91,187 |
| | | |
| **Other Financing Sources** | | |
| 3912-1-001 Library Reimbursements | $37,198 | |
| 3915-1-001 Cap Res Police Cruisers | 11,000 | |
| 3915-2-001 Cap Res Reval | | 42,332 |
| 3916-1-001 Interfund Transfers - Trust | 1,348 | 2,204 |
| **Total** | $49,546 | $44,536 |
| | | |
| **Total Combined Revenue** | $5,714,438 | $6,148,614 |

## Plodzik & Sanderson Professional Association

193 North Main Street, Concord, N.H. 03301 (603)2254-6996

**Independent Auditors Report on Financial Presentation**

To the Members of the Board of Selectmen
Town of Chester
Chester, New Hampshire

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester as of and for the year ended June 30, 1999 as listed in the table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Town's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

The general purpose financial statements referred to above do not include the general fixed assets account group which should be included in order to conform with generally accepted accounting principles. As is the case with most municipal entities in the State of New Hampshire, the Town of Chester has not maintained historical cost records of its fixed assets. The amount that should be recorded in the general fixed assets account group is not known.

In our opinion, except for the effect on the financial statements of the omission described in the preceding paragraph, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Town of Chester, as of June 30, 1999, and the results of its operations and the cash flows of its nonexpendable trust funds for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester taken as a whole. The combining and individual fund financial statements listed as schedules in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the Town of Chester. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

The complete audit is available at the Selectmen's Office during office hours; Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

September 13, 1999

# Zoning Board of Adjustment

The ZBA is a volunteer board appointed by the selectmen. The ZBA acts in what is called a "quasi-judicial" capacity in exercising its responsibilities under the state law and Chester zoning ordinances. The Board's role is to address appeals from administrative decisions, and applications for zoning variances and special exceptions. This means that the ZBA acts a both the judge and jury in deciding a matter involving the rights of parties appearing before the Board. In other words, the ZBA acts as a jury in finding facts and in applying the facts under the rules of law. The ZBA acts as a judge in determining what the law is and by applying that law to the findings of fact that it makes. Of course, all of this is done in the context of being subject to judicial review if an adversely affected party files an appeal with the Superior Court following the ZBA's decision.

Members of the ZBA and the Board's administrative assistant are aided in their mission by participating in the annual NH Office of State Planning conference on Planning and Zoning, and NH Municipal Association's annual Municipal Law Lecture Series. These training sessions include selectmen and planning board members as well as ZBA members from across the state. New material is included each year as state laws, case law and local practices change from year to year. Participants learn not only from the professionals conducting the sessions, but from each other creating a network of resources available statewide. The board is further assisted with a designated representative from the Planning Board participating in the hearings and advice from the town's attorney's.

State law requires that each town board have written policies and procedures governing its functions and responsibilities. This year, thanks to the extraordinary effort of administrative assistant Janet Boyden, the board completed the total review and compilation of the ZBA policies and procedures begun last year. Additionally, she updated and designed new application forms with detailed instructions on each form. Applicants are urged to read and follow these instructions to facilitate proper and timely processing of their applications, and all parties compliance with the laws. With the hiring of a full time Zoning Enforcement Officer by the Board of Selectmen, application of the zoning ordinances and guidance in compliance with the ordinances has been greatly enhanced.

State law also requires that all ZBA records, which are legal documents, be kept indefinitely. The Board's administrative assistant Janet Boyden has located, filed and cross-referenced all records since her arrival in 1992. This is no small accomplishment as historically ZBA records have been kept in the backs of cars or trucks and private homes as well as various corners of Town Hall. Mrs. Boyden located a box of old records on the basement steps and recently found another box disintegrating in the basement of Town Hall. These files are in the process of beingrestored and catalogued.

The ZBA is grateful to the Planning Board's administrative assistant Cynthia Robinson for her willingness to share office space and resources with the ZBA administrative assistant. This has allowed the ZBA to collect and secure records, and to have access to a computer, typewriter and telephone to better serve the public. Even with this cooperation, ZBA staff and members have continued to rely on their private resources to conduct town business. On behalf of all Chester citizens as well as ZBA staff and members, we wish to thank the benefactors of the "new" Chester Municipal Building for their extraordinary generosity to address the town's space needs.

In the Chester Municipal Building, the ZBA now has ample dedicated secure space to conduct town business. Mrs. Boyden has collected some basic office furnishings at no expense to the town. However, town business can no longer be conducted out of private homes with personal equipment. The ZBA budget reflects an increase in the office equipment line to cover the one-time costs of an office computer with sufficient capacity and a phone system with a message taking capacity. Much of the ZBA business requires research, documentation, and communication which are conducted electronically.

The ZBA hours for the administrative assistant were increased last year to respond to the demands for service. After a year of experience, we anticipate a slight increase in the number of hours required of the administrative assistant to address the increasing and complex demands on the Board. The administrative assistance will continue to be available to the public one day a week for a few hours depending on the critical needs of the business before the Board.

The budget increase in staff time and postage and public notice expenses is significantly offset by the increase in filing fees established last year. The small increase in recording fees is unavoidable as necessary documents are filed with the county which charges a fee.

I would like to thank the public for its patience and cooperation in this transition to a dedicated ZBA office. The Board is especially grateful to Janet Boyden, Administrative Assistant, for her skill and dedication to excellence in keeping this Board running smoothly and efficiently. This was a significant challenge this year. For an extended period she filled the vacant Board of Selectmen's administrator and bookkeeping positions while working days, nights, and weekends on the town's re-evaluation project.

I thank the following Board Members for contributing their valuable time, dedication, and skill in serving their community: Billie Maloney, vice-chair, Don Gauvin, Jean Methot, , Janice Jeans, and Steph Landau, Planning Board Representative, and Charlotte Lister, Board of Selectmen Representative.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia K. Herman, Chair

# Report of the Chester Public Library

Over the past several years, your Library has continued to grow and thrive, and this year was no exception! Our circulation was 50,063! That's over 7,500 more than last year. Not only did we add 3, 191 new materials, many of which were made possible through your donations, but we also added 208 of you as new patrons. Welcome! This year we said good-bye to Brenda Gilliland as Assistant Director and we welcomed Melissa Rossetti back to the Library as her replacement.

We hosted our annual programs such as Mardi Gras, Big Cheese Day, Coffee and Kleenex, January Thaw, National Children's Book Week, National Library Week and our annual Summer Reading Program with over 125 children participating! We also added a month of Fire Prevention complete with a coloring contest and our most successful evening story hour! The "Force" was with us as we held Star Wars Day which included a story hour, giveaways, and a costume contest. Every Friday morning we also host a "theme" pre-school story hour.

We received a $300 gift from the NH Assc. of Realtors for use with our shut-in delivery service, and the Friends of the Library continued their support by giving us three sets of Encyclopedias for Christmas, including the World Book 2000. Thank You! Another addition to the Library this year was the Ryan J. Berry shelf in our children's section. It is dedicated to Ryan and all the books on it come out of a special fund set up in Ryan's name. Ryan's mom, Beth, is a Trustee and we thank her and her husband Steve for this special gift in memory of their son.

Sadly, this past year we lost our long-time custodian and friend Diane Dupont after a long battle with cancer, she is missed.

This past fall, Director Judy Balk and Assistant Melissa Rossetti both attended the NH Library Association conference in Manchester and they also both completed a Cataloging course sponsored by the State Library. The first of many! As you can see, it's been a busy year for your Library and we have no intention of slowing down, so please come by and visit often. You never know what we have up our sleeves!! See you soon.

Sincerely,

Your Staff at the Chester Public Library

Judy Balk, Director
Melissa Rossetti, Assistant Director
Jessica Kioacz
Emily Heuer
Jean Packard, Custodian

## Cash Flow Report

**Other Sources of Funds**

Deposited in Checking Account

| | |
|---|---|
| Non Resident Dues | $ 60 |
| Bank Boston Interest | 81 |
| Telephone Income | 15 |
| Total | $ 156 |

| Budgeted Sources of Funds | Budgeted | Actual | Additional | Remaining |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Library Trust Fund Income | $ 26,433 | $ 23,000 | | |
| Town Appropriation | 55,900 | 55,900 | | |
| Money Market Fund Interet | | 2,500 | | |
| Total | $ 82,343 | $ 81,400 | | |
| **Expenses** | | | | |
| Books | $ 18,919 | $ 18,231 | $ 3,738 | $ (1,180) |
| Other Media | 3,004 | 4,000 | | |
| Subscriptions | 1,456 | 1,200 | | |
| Dues | 190 | 150 | | |
| Misc | 1,091 | 500 | | |
| Postage | 468 | 400 | | |
| Library Supplies | 2,800 | 2,000 | | |
| Telephone | 1,342 | 1,000 | | |
| Travel | 166 | 100 | | |
| Education | 221 | 150 | | |
| Utilities | 2,929 | 3,500 | | |
| Equipment Maintenance | 2,304 | 3,000 | | |
| Computer Supplies | 6,772 | 4,000 | | |
| Book Reviews | 324 | 300 | | |
| Building Maintenance | 5,327 | 3,000 | | |
| Custodial Supplies | 44 | 100 | | |
| Special Events | 1,236 | 600 | | |
| Trustees Purchases | 100 | 2,500 | | |
| Wages | 37,405 | 40,900 | | |
| Total | $ 86,601 | $ 81,400 | | |

**Cash Account Balances**

| | |
|---|---|
| Bank Boston Checking | $ 28 |
| Non-Lapsing Saving Account | $ 14,521 |
| Petty Cash Account | $ 32 |

# Planning Board

Calendar Year 1999, was again a busy year for the Planning Board. The Board has approved eight (8) Subdivision Applications totaling one hundred (100) new lots.

Given the increase in Building Permits issued in 1999, and prior years, the Planning Board again believes that the creation of a Growth management Ordinance should be investigated. To that end, the Board has interviewed professional planners and has selected one with the appropriate skills and experience.

Throughout the year, Planning Board members worked with the conditions exist to warrant a Growth Management Ordinance and work continues on its development. This Ordinance will not be ready for Town Election in May, however, the Planning Board will be asking the Board of Selectmen to authorize a Special Town Election this Fall.

The Capital Improvements Program is in the process of being updated. This document will play a significant roll in the development of the Growth Ordinance.

New Site Plan Review Regulations have been adopted by the Planning Board. This set of regulations are more detailed and will provide the Board with more authority to regulate commercial development (non-residential and multi-family). Amendments to the Subdivision Regulations are ongoing.

In conjunction with the Building Inspector, the Planning Board has been involved in several legal actions which have resulted in judicial hearings and involvement of Town Counsel. The Board will continue to engage counsel to protect the Town's interest.

The Planning Board continues to assess subdivisions for off-site improvements to town roads. The amount of this assessment has not seen an increase in more than twelve (12) years. Due to the increase in the cost of road construction, the Planning Board will be increasing the amount assessed.

In 1999, Planning Board Fees, and Driveway Permit Fees generated Twenty Three Thousand, Nine Hundred and Ten Dollars ($23,910) in revenue to help defray the costs of operating the Planning Board Office.

The Planning Board is proposing the following zoning amendments this year:

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Subsection 2.44 Structure

To redefine the definition of Structure to clarify what qualifies as a structure.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Subsection 8.1.1 and 8.2.2 Phasing - General Requirement

To prevent piecemeal development of land intended to avoid that phasing of a development.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Subsection 5.6.4.2 Lot Size Determination

To eliminate steep slopes from the one (1) acre requirement for the contiguous non-wetland.

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows?

Subsection 7.4.2.3 Minimum Setbacks

To require the setbacks in low-moderate income housing developments to remain in their natural vegetative state.

The Planning Board asks that you

**Please vote "YES" on the above proposed zoning amendments.**

Copies of any of these amendments are available in the Town Clerk's Office, Board of Selectmen's Office and the Planning Board Office during regular business house.

The Board welcomes any questions and input regarding its regulations. The Board meets on the first, second and fourth Wednesday of the month in the Town Hall starting at 7:30 P.M. Anyone interested in becoming a Planning Board member should contact the Board of Selectmen's Office or attend a Planning Board meeting.

The Planning Board has office house on Tuesday from 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. and Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. in the Planning Office at the Chester Municipal Office Building. The office telephone number is (603) 887-5629. If this schedule changes, a notice will be posted outside Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chester Planning Board

Richard Snyder, Chairman
Evan Sederquest, Vice-Chairman
Cynthia J. Robinson, Administrative Assistant
Stephen Landau
Scott Rice
Camilla Lockwood
Carl Morin, Alternate
Andrew Hadik, Ex-Official

# Highway Safety Committee

The Highway Safety Committee continues to meet on the second Monday of the month at 7:30P.M. , in the conference room of the Chester Police Department.

The committee has developed a Mission Statement and a Committee Member List and submitted them to the Board of Selectmen.

The Chester Police Department reports back to the Committee, there were no incidence having to do with the annual "Blessing of the Pets", "Blessing of the Bikes" or the Town Fair/Fiber Day.

The new Chester Academy opened in September. Traffic flow at the entrance on Rte 102, was not a major problem. On-site traffic did not flow as expected, but gradually corrected itself. "School Open" lights have been relocated to Rte 102, and the Committee asked to have a street light installed at the entrance to the road leading to the new school.

The Board of Selectmen asked the Committee for input on the conversion of Green Road to a Class A or B Trail.

The Board of Selectmen requested input from the Committee regarding the town joining the Mutual Aid and Assistance Program, a program set up to pool highway equipment resources.

Residents of town Farm Road raised the question of 30 m.p.h. speed limits on town roads.

The Committee was asked by the Board of Selectmen to provide guidance on the posting of Shepard Home Road to "No Thru Trucking". It was the consensus of this Committee to post the road by weight of vehicles as a temporary measure while developing a plan to make improvements to Shepard Home Road.

The Planning Board continues to send developers to the Highway Safety Committee looking for input on their particular project and its impact on highway safety.

The Highway Safety Committee is made up of volunteers, appointed by the Board of Selectmen to provide a conduit to the Board of Selectmen's Office for highway safety related issues.

The Highways Safety Committee would like to remind residents that all meetings are open to the public and all are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,
Chester Highway Safety Committee

Chief Alfred Wagner, Police Department
Chief Stephen Tunberg, Fire Department
Albert Hamel, State Representative
Charlotte Lister, Selectwoman
Cynthia J. Robinson, Planning Board
Carl Morin, Road Agent

Public Members

Col. Richardson D. Benton
George Noyes

# Town of Chester

# Town Warrant
# and
# Town Budget

# Budget Advisory Committee - Fiscal Year 2001

On 4/14/00 the Town of Chester Budget Advisory Committee met with the Board of Selectmen in a public hearing to review the FY2001 town budget.

The Budget that was presented reflected an increase in spending for the core budget of 18%. It appeared that the Selectmen did not make any budget cuts from the departmental requests that were submitted since none were indicated on the budget sheets.

This budget includes new employees, additional health insurance coverage for new and old employees (approx. $45,000) and purchases of major computer equipment, independently by each department, without concern of what was necessary for the town to function as a whole. Some departments were submitting budget requests at the public hearing and the Selectmen had not seen these requests prior to the meeting.

During this review, it became evident that the town is structured so that each department decides if they need new employees or are going to give full-time employees benefits. There are no policies and procedures in place to control hiring or the requirements necessary to become eligible for health insurance. Some departments were requiring contributions by employees while others were offering 100% paid benefits. There had been no research completed to determine what health benefits cost or how they would be structured. It is not known if the health insurance numbers in the budget reflect reality for a town the size of Chester.

It is our hope that the Board of Selectmen accelerates their plans to hire a **qualified** town manager so he/she can start on 7/1/00 or sooner if possible. The board should structure this position so that all town employees and department heads report directly to the town manager. He/she should be responsible for the day to day operations of the town and should be the first level of review for all town business. This change will enable the Board of Selectmen to be able to be the executive board of the town and the savings to the town should be more than enough to pay salaries and benefits for this new position.

Based on our review we do not believe that this budget represents the best budget that can be presented to the town and we **cannot recommend** this budget in its present form. We suggest that all new hiring, benefit changes and major purchases be delayed until a town manager has been hired. It is our hope that the Board of Selectmen will consider cutting this budget to an acceptable level before it reaches Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Parnell, Chairman
Bruce Baker
Paul Kretsch
Stephen Riley (absent from meeting)
Judy Wolcott (absent from meeting)

# TOWN WARRANT
# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Chester, N.H. in the County of Rockingham in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the new Chester Municipal Offices in said Chester on Tuesday, the Ninth of May next, at 10:00 in the forenoon to act on Articles #1 - #5. The polls will close at 7:00 p.m.. After the ballots are counted, the meeting is adjourned until Wednesday, May 10, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chester Academy Cafetorium. Articles #6 through Article #33 will be taken up at that time.

**Article # 1.** To choose all necessary Town Officials for the ensuing year.

**Article # 2.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Subsection 2.44 Structure
To redefine the definition of Structure to clarify what qualifies as structure.

**Article # 3.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Subsection 8.1.1 and 8.2.2 Phasing - General Requirement
To prevent the piecemeal development of land intended to avoid the phasing of a development.

**Article # 4.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #3 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Subsection for Section 5.6.4.2 Lot Size Determination
To eliminate steep slopes from the one (1) area requirement for the contiguous non-wetland.

**Article # 5.** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #4 as proposed by the Planning Board to amend the zoning ordinance as follows:

Subsection 7.4.2.3 Minimum Setbacks
To require the setbacks in low-moderate income housing developments to remain in their natural vegetative state.

**Article # 6.** To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, and Committees of Officers heretofore chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

**Article # 7.** Shall we adopt an exemption for the disabled? The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be $55,000. To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least 5 years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than $35,000 or, if married a combined net income of not more than $60,000; and own net assets not in excess of $300,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

Upon adoption the exemption shall take effect no later that April 1st next following the referendum.

**Article # 8.** To see if the Town will vote to establish a Heritage Commission pursuant to RSA 673:1 II; 673:4-a; and 674:44-a et seq., to exercise all powers and duties of the Historic District Commission. The Heritage Commission shall consist of seven members to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. One member shall be a member of the Board of Selectmen, ex-officio, and one member shall be a member of the Historic District Commission, ex-officio. The terms of the ex-officio members shall coincide with the length of their remaining terms as Selectman and Historic District Commission member respectively. The terms of the other five members shall be for three years, except that the initial term shall be staggered as

follows: two appointed for one year; two appointed for two years; one appointed for three years. One member may be a member of the Planning Board. The Board of Selectmen shall also be authorized to appoint not more than five alternate members pursuant to RSA 673:4-a for terms of three years, except that the initial term shall be staggered as follows: two for one year: two for two years: and one for three years. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

RSA 673:4-a I allows the Heritage Commission to have as few as three members and as many as seven members. In any case, the two ex-officio members are mandatory. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article # 9.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to establishment and administer a Pay-as-you-throw user fee system to offset the cost of solid waste disposal. (Selectmen recommend 2 to 1) (Conservation Commission recommends 7 to 0)

**Article #10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($200,000) for renovations to the Old Chester Elementary School for Municipal use. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #11.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred and Seventy Eight Thousand, Six Hundred and Thirty Nine dollars ($278,639) as may be necessary to defray Town Charges for the ensuing year on Town Charges: $8,662 Executive, $13,059 Elections, $32,782 Town Administration, $43,812 Property Valuation, $39,000 Legal, $26,800 Insurance, $39,376 Finance Administration, $2,803 Treasurer, $33,060 Town Clerk, $36,485 Tax Collector, $2,600 Street Lighting. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #12.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty One Thousand, Eight Hundred and Twenty Seven dollars ($151,827) for General Government: $45,344 for Planning Board, $11,762 for ZBA, $90,848 for Government

Buildings, and $3,873 for NHMA and So. NH Planning Commission Dues. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #13.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand dollars ($13,000) to upgrade the Town's municipal computer network. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0).

**Article #14.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand dollars ($6,000) to be added to the Document Preservation Capital Reserve Fund, established at the May 1997 Town Meeting, for the purpose of Historic Document Preservation; and to further designate the Selectmen as agents to expend the fund for document preservation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #15.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Thousand dollars ($150,000) to acquire the development rights to approximately 20.5 acres of land owned by Philip S. Wilson on Rte. 102 (Map 1, Lot's 86 and 88). A maximum of $75,000 is to be raised by taxation with the remainder to be offset by matching funds from the Federal Farmland Protection Program and/or other available grants. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0) (Conservation Commission recommends 7 to 0)

**Article #16.** To see if the Town will vote to reclassify the Class VI highway known as Norton Road, from Lane Road to the Town Forest (Map 7, Lot 62), into a Class A Municipal Trail under RSA 231-A. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0), (Conservation Commission recommend 7 to 0)

**Article #17.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate Three Hundred and Ninety Nine Thousand, Six Hundred dollars ($399,600) for Public Safety which includes: $254,601 for the Police Department, $25,000 for the Ambulance, $36,300 for the Fire Department, $4,784 for Forest Fires and Fire Trails, $1,000 for Emergency management, $5,000 for Hazmat Mutual Aid, and $72,915 for the Building Inspector. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #18.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Three Thousand, Five Hundred dollars ($33,500) to hire an additional full-time Police Officer (Includes Salary & Benefits): to be offset by a federally funded COPS grant (75% matching funds) with the rest to be raised by taxation. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #19.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Six Thousand dollars ($26,000) to purchase a new Police Vehicle, $15,500 from taxation and the remainder to come from the Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #20.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty Six Thousand, Three Hundred and Forty Three dollars ($246,343) to defray the expenses of $246,343 Highway Department and Bridges. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #21.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eighty Thousand dollars ($80,000) for the re-construction of Candia Road as recommended by the C.I.P. that was adopted by the Planning Board in April 1991 and amended in May 1996. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #22.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Two Thousand dollars ($152,000) to repair Towle Bridge and a portion of Towle Road. A maximum of $2,720 is to be raised by taxation with the remainder to be offset by $121,520 from the NH Bridge Aid Program and $27,760 previously raised and appropriated for this purpose. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #23.** To see if the Town will vote to accept as a Class V Highway Purington Lane from its origin at Harantis Lake Road to its termination at its cul-de-sac as shown on a subdivision plan entitled "Harantis Cove Subdivision Plat" by Promised Land Survey, LLC,

dated April 6, 1999, and recorded in the Rockingham County Registry of Deeds as Plan D-27410. The acceptance of the road shall be conditional on (a) certification by the Planning Board that the road meets all specifications of the subdivision regulations for roads; and (b) furnishing of security in a form and amount acceptable to the Board of Selectmen to secure performance of repairs to the road caused by construction vehicles until 80% of the lots have been developed.

**Article #24.** To see if the Town will vote to permanently discontinue Smith Road Extension from a Class V Highway to a Class VI Highway. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #25.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred and Fifty dollars ($8,850) to defray the expenses of the Welfare Department: $8,850 for Direct Assistance. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #26.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Fifty Six Thousand, Three Hundred and Thirty Eight dollars ($156,338) for Waste Management which includes: $126,238 for the Municipal Waste Disposal, $11,500 for Recycling, and $18,600 for Landfill Post-closure Monitoring and Reporting. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #27.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nineteen Thousand, Four Hundred and Fifty Eight dollars ($19,458) for Town Health which includes: $2,592 for Pest Control, and $16,866 for Other Health. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #28.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred and Thirty Three Thousand, Three Hundred and Fifty Three dollars ($133,353) for Culture and Recreation which includes: $73,935 for the Chester Public Library, $3,300 for the Cable Committee, $12,620 for Parks and Recreation Commission, $10,950 for the Chester Conservation Commission, $2,000 for the Spring Hill Farm Trust, and $22,798 for Chester Cemeteries, $150 for American

Legion, $1,600 for Seniors, $6,000 for Town Fair. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #29.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the construction of an approximately 1,960-square-foot addition to the north side of the existing library, located on Town-owned land between the old town hall and the post office. Plans for the library addition, prepared by Dann Norris Batting, job #2009, are on file in the Chester Public Library for viewing during library hours. Funds for the addition have been donated. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #30.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept gifts of personal property, other than cash, to the Town for any public purposes. This authorization in accordance with RSA 31:95-e shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the Town meeting. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #31.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to sell surplus equipment at public auction or by sealed bids. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #32.** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to allow a discount of 1% on all property taxes paid in full within 20 days after mailing the property tax bills. (Selectmen recommend 3 to 0)

**Article #33.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Posted 4/24/00

## *Expense Budget of the Town of Chester as proposed for 2000/2001*

| TITLE | 97/98 VOTE | 97/98 EXPENSE | 98/99 VOTE | 98/99 EXPENSE | 99/00 VOTE | 99/00 EXPENSE | 00/01 REQUEST |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Selectmen | 8,230 | 7,427 | 8,374 | 7,739 | 8,824 | 5,680 | 8,662 |
| Town Administrator | 28,060 | 21,754 | 27,110 | 22,719 | 25,385 | 10,681 | 32,782 |
| Finance Admin. | 41,375 | 35,348 | 41,375 | 19,848 | 42,345 | 32,088 | 39,376 |
| Treasurer | 3,300 | 2,224 | 3,140 | 2,247 | 2,735 | 1,180 | 2,803 |
| Pers. Admin | 26,000 | 23,237 | 27,10 | 20,475 | 27,100 | 20,806 | |
| Town Clerk | 23,200 | 22,360 | 19,945 | 17,752 | 22,217 | 14,337 | 33,060 |
| Elections | 5,525 | 4,023 | 7,450 | 14,524 | 6,075 | 152 | 13,059 |
| Cable | 7,150 | 8,692 | 6,300 | 1,857 | 3,300 | 1,190 | 3,300 |
| Tax Collector | 19,655 | 19,051 | 22,320 | 19,476 | 24,167 | 11,422 | 36,485 |
| Property Valuation | 18,500 | 23,056 | 21,500 | 25,111 | 24,500 | 1,176 | 43,812 |
| Legal | 25,000 | 42,141 | 39,000 | 76,409 | 35,001 | 27,338 | 39,000 |
| Zoning Board of Adjustment | 3,950 | 2,198 | 3,510 | 3,453 | 6,875 | 3,213 | 11,762 |
| Town Buildings | 40,420 | 28,282 | 37,320 | 30,662 | 73,400 | 31,105 | 90,848 |
| Insurance | 55,100 | 31,932 | 39,700 | 25,917 | 29,315 | 24,800 | 26,800 |
| Police | 207,349 | 188,096 | 214,005 | 197,587 | 226,775 | 147,943 | 254,601 |
| Animal Control | 2,570 | 837 | 2,570 | 1,677 | 2,200 | 327 | 2,592 |
| Fire | 32,500 | 32,646 | 34,500 | 34,789 | 35,500 | 19,742 | 36,300 |
| Ambulance | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 25,000 | 12,500 | 25,000 |
| Forest Fire | 4,500 | 4,432 | 4,500 | 4,641 | 4,500 | 1,452 | 4,784 |
| Emergency Mgmt | 2,000 | 150 | 2,000 | 0 | 1,000 | | 1,000 |

| TITLE | 97/98 VOTE | 97/98 EXPENSE | 98/99 VOTE | 98/99 EXPENSE | 99/00 VOTE | 99/00 EXPENSE | 00/01 REQUEST |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Other Public Safety | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Planning Board | 21,950 | 20,447 | 22,776 | 22,629 | 31,218 | 18,107 | 45,344 |
| Association Dues | 2,000 | 1,893 | 1,961 | 1,961 | 2,037 | 2,037 | 3,873 |
| Code Enforcement | 24,375 | 24,863 | 30,512 | 27,657 | 34,325 | 42,985 | 72,915 |
| Welfare | 9,050 | 5,168 | 9,350 | 4,573 | 9,250 | 1,750 | 8,850 |
| Highway | 185,900 | 186,794 | 207,515 | 207,169 | 212,200 | 157,376 | 246,343 |
| Street Lights | 2,300 | 2,298 | 2,575 | 2,269 | 2,700 | 1,552 | 2,600 |
| Solid Waste | 122570 | 72,673 | 94,796 | 78,630 | 95,550 | 57,359 | 126,238 |
| Recycling | 10450 | 7,989 | 8,300 | 9,684 | 10,650 | 3,997 | 11,500 |
| Secured Landfill | 25000 | 10,163 | 25,000 | 11,896 | 19,200 | 6,030 | 18,600 |
| Cemetary | 11975 | 13283 | 15175 | 16877 | 18700 | 22707 | 22798 |
| Recreation | 10,510 | 10,384 | 9,630 | 9,716 | 14,891 | 12,298 | 12,620 |
| Library | 49,900 | 49,900 | 55,900 | 55,900 | 60,980 | 45,660 | 73,935 |
| Other | 11,150 | 5,150 | 4,650 | 4,650 | 5,150 | 5,362 | 7,750 |
| Other Health | 20,241 | 20,191 | 15,805 | 15,805 | 16,423 | 11,940 | 16,866 |
| Conservation Commission | 500 | 18,019 | 6,500 | 7,280 | 4,450 | 20,417 | 10,950 |
| Spring Hill | 800 | 1,085 | 2,500 | 1,720 | 2,500 | 866 | 2,000 |
| **SUBTOTAL BEFORE DEBT** | 1,091,555 | 976,686 | 1,103,164 | 1,033,799 | 1,171,438 | 782,575 | 1,394,208 |

| TITLE | 97/98 VOTE | 97/98 EXPENSE | 98/99 VOTE | 98/99 EXPENSE | 99/00 VOTE | 99/00 EXPENSE | 00/01 REQUEST |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Debt Service | 16,380 | 11,880 | 154,064 | 147,943 | 184,135 | 180,222 | 173,309 |
| Other Warrant Articles | 25,000 | 22,038 | 449,292 | 213,047 | 444,780 | 262,554 | 476,500 |
| Capital Outlay Machinery | 25,000 | 23,070 | 13,000 | 13,000 | 37,900 | 37,900 | 26,000 |
| Captial Outlay Buildings | | | 499,000 | | | | |
| Capital Outlay Encumb | 27,760 | 7,451 | 48,849 | 0 | 41,860 | 0 | 152,000 |
| Capital Reserve | | | 105,000 | 64,202 | 46,798 | 64,208 | 6,000 |
| Taxes Paid to County/Scho | 4,021,926 | 4,021,926 | 4,174,985 | 4,174,985 | 5,215,276 | 2,714,633 | 0 |
| State Fees | | 1,838 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 | 357 | 1,000 |
| **TOTAL** | **6,299,176** | **6,041,574** | **7,650,518** | **6,680,774** | **8,314,625** | **4,825,024** | **3,623,225** |

# Building Inspector's Report

The Chester Building Department continues to grow as the Town of Chester continues to grow. The Building Inspector/Zoning Officer's position has become full-time to better serve you, the citizens of Chester.

Eighty-five (85) New Single Family Home Permits, Two (2) Commercial Building Permits, One (1) Commercial Renovation and Two Hundred and Seventy-nine (279) Home Improvement Permits were issued for a total of Three Hundred, Sixty-seven (367), which mode 1999 an extremely busy and active year.

Total revenue generated from Building Permits amounted to Forty-six Thousand, Seven Hundred and Twenty dollars and forty cents ($46,720.40).

Twenty-six (26) "Notices of Violations" and "Cease and Desists" were issued for various zoning infractions.

**New Residential Home Permits Issued 1999**

| Name | Tax Map/Lot | | Sites |
|---|---|---|---|
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-011 | 55 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| Formula Dev. Corp | 005-102-001 | 25 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-003 | 7 | Muskrat Circle |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-005 | 27 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-006 | 22 | Muskrat Circle |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-007 | 20 | Muskrat Circle |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-00 | 49 | Muskrat Circle |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-001 | 25 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-027 | 16 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-024 | 36 | Red Squirrel Lane |
| K. Hatch | 009-001-005 | 6 | Whitetail Lane |
| K. cClary | 009-081-074 | 10 | Partridge Lane |
| Lamphere Const. Inc. | 011-007-003 | 651 | Lane Road |
| D. Barros | 009-081-069 | 131 | Meadowfox Lane |
| W. Draper | 008-069-001 | 84 | Fremont Road |
| La'More Homes LLC | 006-017-003 | 19 | Morgan Lane |
| Desisto Home Bldrs. | 009-081-064 | 101 | Partridge Lane |
| Delridge Realty Corp. | 009-001-009 | 5 | Whitetail Lane |
| B. Sunberg | 009-031 | 210 | Towle Road |
| Reddy Home Bldrs, Inc. | 006-017-005 | 20 | Morgan Lane |
| A. Ragnarsson | 002-070 | 236 | Haverhill Road |
| D. Bartlett | 003-082-101 | 31 | Pulpit Rock Rd |
| Mase Const. Corp. | 007-048-136 | 23 | Bayberry Road |
| Mase Const. Corp. | 007-048-138 | 16 | Bayberry Road |
| Desisto Home Bldrs. | 009-081-076 | 40 | Patridge Lane |
| Remi-sons Inc., | 007-048-113 | 36 | Ladyslipper Ln |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Desisto Home Bldrs. | 007-048-111 | 30 | Ladyslipper Ln |
| Mase Const. Corp. | 007-048-115 | 41 | Ladyslipper Ln |
| Donahue Bldrs, Inc. | 006-004-001 | 145 | Wells Village |
| J. Hill | 005-107-002 | 177 | Sandown Rd |
| T. Belanger | 009-081-065 | 106 | Patridge Lane |
| Donahue Bldrs, Inc. | 006-004 | 137 | Wells Village |
| J. Donigian | 009-004-009 | 82 | Raven Drive |
| Desisto Home Bldrs. | 009-081-080 | 27 | Patridge Lane |
| Reddy Home Bldrs, Inc. | 006-017-007 | 30 | Morgan Lane |
| Sloan Bldrs. LLC | 007-048-137 | 12 | Bayberry Road |
| D. Lauze | 001-048-012 | 3 | Purington Lane |
| Delridge Realty Corp. | 009-001-007 | 28 | Whitetail Lane |
| C. Lysik | 001-099 | 196 | East Derry Rd |
| J. Grace | 001-038 | 4 | Cole Road |
| R. Desisto | 007-048-139 | 26 | Bayberry Road |
| K. Hatch | 009-001 | 25 | Whitetail Lane |
| K. Emerson | 012-011-001 | 222 | Lane Road |
| Shepard Home Realty | 009-081-077 | 54 | Partridge Lane |
| Taykam Dev. LLC | 007-048-110 | 5 | Sweet Brain Ln |
| Taykam Dev. LLC | 007-048-132 | 4 | Bayberry Rd |
| N Bernier | 002-080-002 | 387 | Haverhill Road |
| JH Chase LLC | 003-027-004 | 33 | Abenaki Circle |
| JH Chase LLC | 003-027-001 | 16 | Abenaki Circle |
| D. Lauze | 001-048-003 | 12 | Purington Lane |
| Lamphere Const. Inc. | 011-007-006 | 520 | Candia Road |
| Remi-Sons Inc. | 007-048-102 | 22 | Ladyslipper Rd |
| JH Chase LLC | 003-027-003 | 36 | Abenaki Circle |
| D. Zanni | 007-035 | 314 | Candia Rd |
| Homeplate Corp. | 013-024-002 | 25 | Croft Lane |
| Mase Const. Corp. | 007-048-135 | 8 | Bayberry Rd |
| E. Howard | 011-041-004 | 47 | Shattigee Rd |
| A. Morgado | 007-048-133 | 133 | Ladyslipper Ln |
| Stepvenure Dev. LLC | 001-039-003 | 223 | Harantis Lake |
| Stepvenure Dev. LLC | 001-039-002 | 17 | Cole RdSloan |
| Sloan Bldrs, Inc. | 007-048-112 | 148 | LadyslipperLn |
| Goldleaf Homes Inc. | 001-048-066 | 62 | Purington Ln |
| Goldleaf Homes Inc. | 001-048-008 | 65 | Purington Ln |
| Homeplate Corp. | 013-024-003 | 35 | Croft Lane |
| S. McFarland | 010-010 | 769 | Fremont Rd |
| JH Chase | 003-027-006 | 15 | Abenaki Crl |
| Stepventure Dev. LLC | 001-039-006 | 21 | Stonebridge |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-028 | 10 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-025 | 3 | Red Squirrel |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-023 | 44 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-020 | 64 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-013 | 63 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-012 | 57 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-010 | 51 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-009 | 45 | Red Squirrel |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-008 | 12 | Muskrat Circle |
| Formula Dev. Corp. | 005-102-002 | 29 | Red Squirrel |
| W. Donahue | 005-107-001 | 220 | Old Sandown |
| Lamphere Const. Inc. | 011-007-007 | 13 | Mac Intosh Ln |
| Stepventure Dev. LLC | 001-039-004 | 20 | Stonebridge |
| C. Hamm | 005-098 | 203 | Haverhill Rd |
| D. Hoyt | 011-041-006 | 11 | Mulberry Ln |
| Harrantis Cove LLC | 001-048-009 | 51 | Purington Ln |
| Lamphere Const. Inc. | 011-007-002 | 645 | Lane Rd |
| J. Ahern | 012-017 | 173 | Lane Rd |

## COMMERCIAL PERMITS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Town of Chester | 005-019-002 | 27 | Murphy Dr |
| Town of Chester | 013-005 | | Dump Rd |

## COMMERCIAL RENOVATIONS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Town of Chester | 005-012 | Chester St |

## RESIDENTIAL HOME IMPROVEMENT PERMITS

| | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Additions | 18 | 11 | 10 |
| Barns | 7 | 4 | 6 |
| Chimney/Fireplace | 6 | 4 | 1 |
| Decks | 12 | 7 | 15 |
| Electrical | 75 | 38 | 36 |
| Finish 2nd Floor | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Fire Damage Repair | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Garages | 9 | 10 | 7 |
| Heating Systems | 37 | 19 | 13 |
| Miscellaneous | 12 | 5 | 6 |
| Permit Renewal | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| Plumbing | 34 | 15 | 3 |
| Porches | 7 | 10 | 5 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Renovations | 9 | 10 | 7 |
| Second Floor Additions | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Septic Replacements | 12 | 17 | 11 |
| Sheds | 14 | 11 | 10 |
| Signs | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Swimming Pools | 19 | 11 | 10 |
| Raised Buildings | 1 | 3 | 3 |

## WHY A BUILDING PERMIT?

A building permit serves as formal and legal permission to start any construction project. The issuance of a permit indicates that plans for a new home, additon, renovation, septic system, swimming pool, deck, electrical, plumbing or heating system have been reviewed, approved and comply with the adopted building codes and zoning regulations.

The time to call the Building Inspector is before you start a project. The Chester Building Department provides a wide range of services, giving homeowners access tot he Building Inspector/zoning Officer's knowledge and experience when they have any inquiries about their project, permit or zoning regulations. Building codes, building permits and inspections protect the publics personal safety and interest. Potential problems may be avoided should any questions arise as to when the project was started, inspected, completed and a record of the application and building permit on file in the Building 'Inspector's Office.

Building permit applications may be picked up in the Building Inspector's and Planning Board Office at our new Municipal Office Building at 84 Chester Street.

My sincere thanks to all homeowners and contractors for your concerns and cooperation.

## OFFICE HOURS

Chester Municipal Office Building
84 Chester St.
Monday Through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

## INSPECTIONS

Monday Through Friday AFTER 12:00 noon

Telephone
(603) 887-5552

Respectfully Submitted,
David S. Jore
Building Inspector/Zoning Officer

# Chester Police Department

**Report for Calendar Year Ending 1999**

The Chester Police Department continues to provide a wide variety of services to the Town of Chester, from unlocking car doors to investigating property crimes.

The last few years there has been an increase in the overall population for the Town of Chester. This has had a corresponding increase in calls for service.

New demands have been placed on Law Enforcement from our Legislative Branch of Government. There are mandatory arrests in some areas of Domestic Violence as well as no bail in other cases. These become a time consuming issue.

The Courts have instituted an Electronic Bench Warrant system where the Chester Police may become involved with individuals with no connection with Chester, but we are required to process the individual.

Several times this past year the Chester Police Officers have had to respond to groups of minors consuming alcohol. Because of the existing rules, these minors have to be taken into custody until they can be released to a "responsible" adult. This is not an issue that should be condoned or overlooked.

Members of the Chester Police Department continue to work with neighboring Departments as well as the County Attorney's Office, to provide solutions to Law Enforcement questions.

As this report is being prepared, so is the "New" Police Station at the old Elementary School on Chester Street. Another sign that the community is growing.

We, the Member so the Chester Police Department, wish to thank members of the community for your continued support during the last year.

Sincerely,
Alfred J. Wagner, Chief of Police

Alexander Castora, Deputy Chief
Leonard Leclair, Sergeant
William Burke, Sergeant
Vaughn M. McGillen, Patrolman
Gerry Reppucci, Patrolman
Scott Haggart, Patrolman
Harold Gardner, Patrolman
Nelson Ortega, Patrolman
Paul Provincher, Patrolman

Vaughn M. McGillen, Administrative Assistant

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Telephone:** | **9-1-1** | **EMERGENCY** |
| | **887-3229** | **All Calls For Service** |
| | **887-2080** | **Unattended Business Line** |
| | **887-2090** | **Animal Control Answering Machine** |

# Fire Department Report

This year has seen many changes. Probably the most significant has been the move to our new quarters. On Labor Day, after many delays, we officially relocated. The completion of the building and the move represented a great deal of work by many of our members. We are still getting settled and anticipate that it will be several more months before the process is complete. The increased space helps to make many of our tasks much easier and the improvement in lighting and comfort are a big plus as well. We are in the process of taking care of the remaining items on our punch list and anticipate many years of service from this building.

he Chester Fire Department has become a busier place. This was to be expected with the growth in population. We had a forty-percent increase in call volume during calendar year 1999. As you can see from the call summary, they do a good job at covering the whole spectrum.

In July, we took delivery of the new airpacks that you generously funded. These represented a big improvement in equipment. The reduction in weight reduces stress on the firefighter, which results in fewer injuries.

Training continues to take up a lot of time. Firefighter One is currently more than two hundred hours and is necessary for new members. The training included in that curriculum equips the firefighter to operate safely in many of the hostile environments that we are exposed to. In addition to that training, we have had several additional people certified as EMT's and the whole department continues to train on a regular basis. Of course the point of all this training is to make the Fire Department as effective as possible and to do so in a safe manner.

After several years of declining death rates for fires, we seem to have experienced an increase in these rates, at least locally. These have occurred as line of duty deaths as well as civilian deaths. This should serve to refresh the need for fire safety. Please make a tour of your house and remove hazards. Flammable liquids should be stored outside the residence, extension cords should be used on a temporary basis and never run under a rug, access to the electrical panel should be kept clear as well as the area around the furnace and all means of egress should be kept clear. In addition, make sure the batteries in the smoke detectors are fresh and the hard-wired detectors are functioning properly. If your house is unoccupied, install a monitored alarm system. Your house number should be at the end of your driveway, on the same side of the street as your residence, visible from the direction that you will receive emergency services and it should be reflective. Your walks and driveways should be kept accessible and free of snow and ice.

**REMEMBER, IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911!**

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Tunberg, Chief
Chester Volunteer Fire Department

## Fire Department Response Summary - 1999

| | |
|---|---|
| **EMS** | |
| Medical | 94 |
| Motor Vehicle | 20 |
| Medical Alert Alarms | 11 |
| **FIRE** | |
| Alarm Activations | 44 |
| Carbon Monoxide Detectors | 3 |
| Chimney | 3 |
| Vehicle | 2 |
| Trees/Wires | 15 |
| Dumpsters | 1 |
| Illegal Burns | 7 |
| Stove Fire | 1 |
| Structure | 2 |
| Smoke/Odor Investigation | 7 |
| Oil Burner | 6 |
| Brush | 10 |
| Service Calls | 2 |
| Trash | 1 |
| Miscellaneous (Explosion, Hot Air Balloon) | 6 |
| **MUTUAL AID** | |
| Auburn | 2 |
| Candia | 4 |
| Derry | 7 |
| E. Derry | 1 |
| Hampstead | 1 |
| Raymond | 1 |
| Sandown | 1 |
| **TOTAL** | **252** |

# Report of Town Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing **ANY** outside burning. Fire permits are required for any open burning unless the ground is completely covered with snow where the burning will be done. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to $2,000.00 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are eleven Forest Rangers who work for the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. During the 1999 season Forest Rangers were busy assisting communities with suppression of difficult and remote multi-day fires. Forest Rangers have also investigated numerous complaints regarding violations of the timber harvest and forest fire laws, and taken enforcement action to ensure compliance. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws, please call our office at 271-2217.

There are 2400 Forest Fire Wardens and Deputy Forest Fire Wardens throughout the state. Each town has a Forest Fire Warden and several Deputy Wardens who assist the Forest Rangers with forest fire suppression, prevention, and law enforcement. The 1999 fire season was a challenging but safe year for wildland firefighters in New Hampshire. The severe drought conditions throughout the spring and summer months combined with residual effects of 1998 Ice Storm, resulting in a dramatic increase in wildland fires. In addition to burning in excess of 452 acres, 35 structures were also impacted by wildfire. Wildland fires in the urban interface is a serious concern for both landowners and firefighters. Homeowners can help protect their structures by maintaining adequate green space around them and making sure their houses are properly identified with street numbers.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in the quick response from local fire departments. This is a critical factor in controlling the size of wildland fires and keeping the loss of property and suppression costs as low as possible.

Please contact your local fire department before doing ANY outside burning.

**REMEMBER ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!!**

## 1999 FIRE STATISTICS

(All Fires Reported through December 10, 1999)

**FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY**

| | Numbers | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Belknap | 139 | 66 |
| Carroll | 81 | 17 |
| Cheshire | 131 | 28 |
| Coos | 18 | 3.25 |
| Grafton | 70 | 18 |
| Hillsborough | 271 | 50 |
| Merrimack | 213 | 115 |
| Rockingham | 218 | 111 |
| Strafford | 98 | 26 |
| Sullivan | 62 | 17 |

**CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED**

| | |
|---|---|
| Smoking | 188 |
| Debris Burning | 352 |
| Campfire | 161 |
| Miscellaneous | 279 |
| Railroad | 6 |
| Equipment Use | 43 |
| Lightning | 42 |
| Children | 176 |
| Arson/Suspicious | 54 |

| | Total Fires | Total Acres |
|---|---|---|
| 1999 | 1301 | 452.28 |
| 1998 | 798 | 442.86 |

# Chester Conservation Commission

The Chester Conservation Commission is a seven-member board appointed by the Selectmen under the provisions of New Hampshire State law to oversee conservation-related matters in the town. The Conservation Commission is active in reviewing subdivision plans for their impact on wetlands, rivers, ponds, surface waters and groundwater. The Commission is a group of Chester residents that are pro-active on preserving open space, educating the public on conservation issues, and generally acting for the community's behalf.

The Conservation Commission meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM in the Town Hall. Meetings are televised on Channel 51 and public input is encouraged.

**Warrant Article - Land and Community Heritage Investment Program Resolution**: This non-binding resolution is being placed as a warrant for towns across the State. Approval simply demonstrates each community's support for a new state program that would voluntarily help interested property owners and communities conserve their important lands and historic structures. The resolution does not commit the town to spend any money. The program, if approved by the State, would make monies available from the State to help protect valuable resources and offset the costs to the towns. The Conservation Commission urges you to vote YES on this resolution.

**Warrant Article – Reclassification of Class VI Highways to Class-A Trails**: The State of New Hampshire regulations allow, by majority vote at Town Meeting, a town to reclassify any Class-VI highway or portion thereof into a Class-A Trail. A Class-A Trail designation gives additional protection from development for the backlands located along previously existing Class-VI highways (Dirt roads - not town maintained).

As a Class-VI highway, the Town is prohibited from engaging in the maintenance of the highway, even if only to remove a tree that has fallen across its path or to replace a washed out culvert. However, as a Class-A Trail, the Selectmen would be authorized by the State to maintain it as a trail for the benefit of the public and to allow easier access to the Town Forest.

Owners of land abutting on, or lands served exclusively by, a Class-A Trail would continue to access the trail in the same manner as they did as a Class-VI highway and are exempt from "public trail use restrictions", which would be restrictions placed on the general public.

**Title 20 (Transportation), Chapter 231A (Municipal Trails)**

**Section 231-A:1 Class A Trails** – A class A trail shall be a full public right-of-way, of indefinite duration subject to public trail use restrictions. It shall not

have the status of a publicly approved street, and shall not be used as a vehicular access for any new building or structure or for the expansion, enlargement, or increased intensity of use of any existing building or structure. It may, however, be used by the owners of land abutting on such trail, or land served exclusively by such trail, to provide access for such nondevelopment uses as agriculture and forestry, or for access to any building or structure existing prior to its designation as a trail, and such owners' access for such uses shall be exempt from applicable public trail use restrictions, subject only to reasonable time, season and manner regulations imposed by the local governing body. The municipality shall bear no responsibility for maintaining the trail for such uses by abutting owners. Such owners shall, prior to excavation, construction or disturbance of a class A trail, obtain permission from the municipal officers, in the same manner prescribed for highways in RSA 236:9-11.

**Town Forest Management Project**: Last year, the Conservation Commission assisted the Selectmen's Office in the timber operations at the Town Forest located between Lane Road and North Pond Road. This year, the Conservation Commission will utilize the proceeds from the successful timber sale to develop a Forest Management Plan for all sizable Town owned land and help develop and defray costs for trail systems for residents to enjoy. A "Licensed Forester" is utilized to ensure that the best management procedures are followed.

**Exeter River Local Advisory Committee**: The Exeter River officially begins its existence as a small stream where it passes under Route 102 in Chester. As the "source" of the river, Chester plays an important role towards its initial water quality. An annual fee of two hundred dollars has been budgeted this year as Chester's portion towards the protection and management of the River.

**Natural Resource Inventory / Prime Wetlands Study**: It has been brought to the Commission's attention that the Conservation Commission is required by the State of New Hampshire to conduct and maintain a Natural Resource Inventory for the Town. The level of effort necessary to complete this inventory is beyond the abilities of our volunteer commission. The estimated cost to complete the inventory is approximately $7,000.00. Yearly maintenance costs should be minimal or non-existent once the initial inventory has been completed. A large part of the inventory process will identify wetlands greater than 2 acres that are located in Town. The wetland data collected can then be used towards a "Prime Wetlands Study" for the Town to better protect these valuable resources. In addition, valuable land such as vernal pools, wildlife habitats and scenic vistas will be recorded to help the Planning Board, Zoning Board and Selectmen identify areas that require additional protective measures.

**2000-2001 Proposed Budget:**

- **Dues & Seminars** *(Budget Line #560)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| The NH Association of Conservation Commissions | = $175 | *(No change)* |
| Attendance at Seminars and Workshops | = $225 | *(Increase of $150)* |
| Exeter River Watershed Council | = $200 | *(Increase of $100)* |
| Rockingham Land Trust | = $ 50 | *(New line item)* |

- **Misc. Operating** *(Budget Line #690)*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Misc. Operating Budget | = $500 | *(Decrease of $500)* |
| Natural Resource Inventory (Mandated by State) /Prime Wetlands Study | =$7000 | *(New line item)* |
| Total Budget Cost | =$8,150.00 | |

- **Town Forest Management** *(Budget Line #900)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Forestry Planning (Paid from prior timber sales) | =$3200 |

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Chester Conservation Commission**

Brad Wamsley, Chairperson
Greg Lowell, Recording Officer
Catherine Arakelian
David Hardy (SLPC)
Maureen Lein (SLPC)
Camilla Lockwood, (Planning Board Representative)
Charlotte Lister, (Selectperson Representative)
Chuck Myette

# Report of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

In August of 1995, The Exeter River was designated for protection under the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Act (RSA 483). Under the terms of the designation, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Services, acting on recommendations from Select Boards, appointed residents from each of the communities along the river to serve as members of the Exeter River Local Advisory Committee.

Chester is home to the headwaters of the Exeter. The river flows to Sandown, Danville, Fremont, back through Chester, then on through Raymond, Fremont, and Brentwood, to Exeter. There, the river flows over the Great Falls and becomes the Squamscott, an important tidal tributary of Great Bay.

Although the official designation gives Route 102 as the commencement of the River, the actual headwaters are situated some distance west on property formerly owned by George Herrick of Exeter. Last year, Mr. Herrick generously donated this thirty-three acre parcel to the Town of Chester, subject to a conservation easement held by the Rockingham Conservation District. It is gratifying to know that the headwaters of this important river are now under permanent protection.

The Exeter River is the chief water supply for the Town of Exeter. Its watershed (approximately 125 square miles) is a primary recharge source for wells along its entire 32 mile length.

The Exeter River Management Plan, which was created as part of the mandate of RSA 483, was adopted by the Planning Board in 1999 as part of the town's Master Plan, and the Committee is working on implementing recommendations presented in the Plan.

The Committee has sponsored and organized a Volunteer River Assessment Program consisting thus far of thirteen volunteers investigating ten sites. Their work has resulted in the completion of four habitat inventories for the towns of Sandown, Danville, Raymond, and Exeter, based on the establishment of sixty-two habitat monitoring sites.

Students from the University of New Hampshire Department of Natural Resources, College of Life Sciences and Agriculture, have, over the past few years, prepared Exeter River Buffer Analyses for the Towns of Fremont, Chester,

Brentwood and Raymond as part of their course requirements.

During the 1999, the Committee reviewed six wetlands applications related to the river. The watershed communities of Kensington, East Kingston and Kingston were invited to join the Committee and share their common interests and concerns.

The University of New Hampshire has prepared a set of Geographic Information System (GIS) maps of the river corridor. Maps include Surface Water, Lands of Special Importance: such as habitat of rare plants and animals, historic sites, prime farmland, and other important data which can help the Committee suggest protection techniques for our sensitive river areas. Sets of these maps are on file at the Planning Board and the Conservation Commission hopes to have some of these maps on display in their office at the new municipal building.

The Exeter River Local Advisory Committee meets at 7:00 PM on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the County Commissioners' Office at the county complex in Brentwood. Do you hunt? fish, paddle?, or just enjoy all the good things a river provides? If you would like to visit and see what is happening with "your river", guests are always welcome, and Chester is seeking two more representatives to the Committee.

For more information, contact Camilla Lockwood at 887-3271.

Respectfully submitted,

Camilla C. Lockwood, Vice Chair
Exeter River Local Advisory Committee

# Chester Recreation Commission Report - 1999

*The all-volunteer Recreation Commission for the Town of Chester, which oversees the Recreation & Parks budget, serves the recreational needs of the town by maintaining and improving the town's primary recreational areas: the Multipurpose Room at the Town Office building and the French and Nichols fields; coordinating recreational agreements with the Town of Derry and the Derry Soccer Club which allow Chester children to participate in basketball and soccer activities, sponsoring its own basketball and volleyball programs, and running a 6-week Summer Program for over 100 Chester children.*

**1999 Report:**

**Multipurpose Room:** The Commission took over responsibility for the Multipurpose Room (MP) at the old school last September. Many activities have been scheduled, including regular activities and one-time events. The Commission schedules and coordinates all MP activities. With the approval of the Selectmen we drew up a set of regulations that define priorities and costs of usage. The use of the MP Room is governed by the following order of priority: town meetings, regularly scheduled recreation activities, non-profit community organizations (Friends of Library, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Lions Club, etc.), requests by Town residents for private functions, and all other requests. Fees ($25-50 per hour) are charged for profit-making activities and for non-Chester users. A full list of these regulations and application forms are available at the Selectmen's Office. Most gym usage by town residents is on an "honor system" – whoever uses the gym is responsible for its security and cleanup. Any resident who would like to schedule an activity and who will take responsibility for overseeing that activity is urged to contact the Recreation Commission at 887-5337.

**Summer Program:** Approximately 80 Chester children participated in the 6-week summer program that began the first week of July. Qualified counselors and assistants led Chester children ages 6 to 12 in games and activities and took them on weekly field trips. This program will be repeated again this year. Sign-up sheets will be distributed at the school or you may contact this commission. No child will be turned away from any of these programs for financial reasons. If the fee is a hardship, please speak privately to one of the Recreation Commission members.

**Facilities Improvement:** The continued growth of the town has strained field usage. The French and Nichols fields are in near-constant use from April through July and again in the fall. The addition of the new

school softball field has alleviated some of the pressure, but our next major project will be the construction of a field behind the old school. There is already a level area that will require only grading, drainage, seeding, and hardware such as backstops. Planning for this field has only started, but unless we receive private funding, we will likely come before the town for approval perhaps as early as next year. Locked gates will be added to the French and Nichols fields this spring at the two access points to control vehicle access.

**Basketball Program**: An instructional Saturday morning program at the new school grew from 20-35 children to almost 90 this past winter. Expansion to a playing league in concert with Auburn is under consideration. Chester residents are reminded that the Derry Recreation Basketball League is also open to Chester children, ages 5-18.

**Junior High Volleyball Program:** The Chester Recreation Commission sponsors a junior high-level volleyball team that plays competitively with other junior highs in the area. Sign-up Information is available through the Chester Academy athletic department.

**Soccer:** There are no soccer leagues in town, but Chester children can play in the independent Derry Soccer Club. Sign-up notices appear regularly in the Derry News.

**2000 Plans/Comments:**

**Budget**: The budget this year has decreased primarily due to the elimination of the contracted MP Room cleaning services from our budget. Now that the Town Offices are occupied, there is an overall cleaning contract for the entire building.
Not reflected in the budget are funds received for the use of the Multipurpose Room, which go the town's general fund. These include user fees and Derry Recreation Department reimbursements for custodial services.
Summer Program funds go into an approved Revolving Fund from which Summer Program expenses for field trips and supplies are drawn.
The biggest budget item (salaries) goes for the Summer Program salaries and youth recreational activity salaries (where an adult supervisor is required to be present

**Future Plans:** We would like to expand the activities at the Multipurpose Room, but need resident input. If anyone wishes to start an aerobics class, adult volleyball, exercise programs, or any other activities, please contact this commission at 887-5773.

**Field Rules and Regulations:** Since this report is our primary means of communicating with the town, we repeat here every year the rules governing usage of the town fields (as spelled out in the Town Master Plan). Priorities for field usage are set as follows (1 is highest priority): (1) Chester School athletic events, (2) Chester Baseball Program or Recreation Commission-sanctioned activities, (3) All other activities (scheduled or unscheduled). Scheduling of the fields for other events, such as church picnics, field days, soccer leagues, or other school usage must be made through the Recreation Commission

**Reminder: There are no horses, motorized vehicles, or GOLF allowed on the fields. (And you might police your dogs a bit as well.)**

As always, we continue to look to the town for guidance and suggestions.

Chester Recreation Commission Members

Greg Lowell
Linda Royce
Debbie Burke
Bob Henderson
Charlie Needham

# Report of the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee

This Committee continues to strive to increase recycling and decrease waste disposal costs. Over the past year the Town of Chester recycled 337 tons of materials, or 30% of its waste stream. The average cost of handling our recycled materials was only about $22 per ton versus about $64 per ton for waste disposal. So the recycling program resulted in a net savings of approximately $14,000. This savings is expected to increase next year to approximately $25,000 due to higher tipping fees for waste disposal.

Although the Town's waste stream continues to increase because of population growth, the rate of recycling has remained at 30% for the third year in a row. This performance rates only average on a state-wide basis. Many New Hampshire towns do far better, and we need to work to improve our recycling rate.

We just applied for and received another matching grant of $1,000 from New Hampshire the Beautiful to use toward recycling equipment. Thanks to the efforts of Bonnie and Lloyd Healey, the transfer station is a very well run and remarkably clean operation. The Swap Shop continues to be extremely successful and a very popular shopping spot on Saturdays. Lloyd has invented a method to drain engine oil filters so we can now recycle them at a profit. The Boy Scouts are still helping us out – this time they are in the process of building an announcement sign (similar to the Town Hall sign) for use at the end of the transfer station access road.

Unfortunately, the Town's waste disposal costs are increasing dramatically. Our three-year disposal contract with Waste Management that fixed our tipping costs at $43.50 per ton has just expired. The new average tipping fee will be $75 per ton (plus about $20 per ton for trucking, equipment rental, etc.) over the life of the new contract. This increase in costs is a reflection of the diminishing landfill space in New Hampshire, and is a reminder of just how crucial it is to improve our recycling.

Like any utility, disposal costs are more fairly distributed if they are usage based. Why should you pay the same for your electricity as a neighbor who uses the service much more than you do? Over 30 New Hampshire towns have adopted Pay As You Throw ("PAYT"). The aim of PAYT is to more equitably distribute the Town's waste disposal costs among residents based upon the amount of trash they actually throw away. Currently, we are all generally paying equally through our taxes. Under PAYT, for example, an elderly person who lives alone and disposes of one bag of trash per week will pay less than the family of six that disposes of six bags per week. Conscientious recyclers also reap their own rewards. PAYT would require residents to purchase Chester bags from local stores, and the price per bag is designed

to pay for the cost of disposal of that bag (as of the time this is printed the bag price has not yet been determined, but is on average about $1 per bag).

The towns that have instituted PAYT have seen dramatic increases in recycling, decreases in their waste streams and corresponding decreases in waste disposal costs. In many cases the expense of waste disposal has been taken off the tax rolls altogether. As a result, still many other towns are looking at this program. According to the Governor's Recycling Program, the number of New Hampshire towns adopting PAYT is expected to double in the next 18 months.

Your Selectmen, the Conservation Commission and this Committee urge you to become knowledgeable about this issue and to **vote YES on PAYT**.

This Committee meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. We always welcome any resident with issues or concerns, or anyone interested in joining the Committee, to attend our meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Pardo, Chair and Secretary
Paula Potter, Vice Chair
J.R. Stephens
Bonnie Healey
Lloyd Healey
Andrew Hadik, Selectman Liaison

# CTV-51 Report

The volunteer staff of CTV-51 has continued to bring the Town of Chester live cablecast of all regularly scheduled meetings of Town Government, as well as providing taped programming. As members of the New Hampshire Coalition for Community Media, we continue to share programming with other communities, such as "Elder Planning Issues," "Small Business 2000," "The Doctor is In," and many other locally produced programs from around NH. CTV-51 is proud to be producers of local programs such as Dick Godfrey's "Erie Canal Tour," and Hilary Hall's "The Main Ingredient," both of which have been shown in as many as 11 other communities throughout NH. Nat Boda has been providing us with his series of short videos, and we continue to see taped programming offered by the newly formed Audio Visual Club of Chester Academy!

We have 3 new volunteers who all share their enthusiasm, and ideas for the future of CTV-51, and we all look forward to moving into our new home at 84 Chester Street in the near future. Our goal is to recreate our editing suite, and create a new studio to facilitate more locally produced programming, and we will be installing some new automated switching equipment to facilitate more live cablecasts of events from Chester Academy, and White Pines College, as well as 84 Chester Street.

1999 saw an evolution for the volunteer staff of CTV-51 with the negotiations for transfer of service from Harron Communications to Adelphia Communications. The volunteers worked with their counterparts with 12 other Southern NH Towns to ensure that all questions were answered, and all parties satisfied with the terms of the transfer which took place October 1, 1999. Our role now is not only to maintain programming pertinent to public interest, but also to work closely with Adelphia to ensure continued quality and commitment.The current franchise agreement will expire in 2003, and the volunteers have officially begun the re-negotiation as of April of 2000. In the next three years we will be looking to the community for your input in this area as well.

We would also love to welcome you as a new member! So if you are interested in TV production, or even if you just have a tape which you would like to share, please give us a call. The studio number is 887-2288. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted:
Leonard M. Stein, Chairman, CTV51

Staff volunteers:
Lenny Stein, Dick Godfrey, Marge Godfrey, Ellen Boda, Nat Boda, R,D. Tilroe, Hilary Hall, Dave Hardy, Vicky Abdallah, Billie Von, Brad Wamsley

# Chester Village Cemetary "Walkway"

The Chester Village Cemetery was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on 29th of November 1979. The Register is maintained by the US Dept of the Interior, Washington DC.

The monuments in the Revolutionary Section of the cemetery are in all sizes, shapes and compositions, and they are in remarkably good condition, after two and one-half centuries of exposure to the elements. The monuments are arranged in dis-continous and irregular rows, with a few in family plots, and a number in isolated areas. There are a number of "slab-type" upright marble monuments, several natural rock boulders, a few with crude lettering thereon, and many unmarked, a possible indication of hasty burial, or poverty in the family.

Epitaphs found on monuments in the Chester Village Cemetary:

**John Karr 1782**
Behold thyself to me such one was I as thou And thou in time shall be Even dust as I am now

**Elizabeth Karr 1781**
I yet do speak tho I am dead A sovreign God made this my bed And what I have to say to thee Prepare for death and follow me

**Joseph Karr 1783**
Blessed is the momory of the just Tho they lie sleeping in the dust And happy theyll be when they rise In realn of light and peace above To sing and priase redeeming love

**Mark Karr 1789**
Behold and see me as you pass by As you are now so once was I As I am now so you must be Prepare for Death and follow me

**Jonathan Dearborn 1852**
His body rests beneath this sod His soul has gone to meet his God Where joy doth reign for ever more And all his toils of life is oer

**Sarah Dearborn - Wife of Jonathan 1861**
Mother now has gone to rest Thy tasks and cares are oer Ascend and dwell amoung the blest And live forever more

**Rebecca Webster - Wife of John 1783**
Retire my friend, dry up your tears Here I rest till Christ appears

**Issac Blasdel 1791**
He was a man well esteemed in public office for his integrity, ingenuity and firmness. Sincere in religeon. A loss to the public as well as to his family

**Hannah Webster 1760**
Halt passenger as you go by Remember now that you must die Consider time is running fast And death will surely come at last

**Susan Emerson 16 yrs 1812**
Frail stranger know that her a maiden lies Whose brest was pious and whose speech sincere Dear kindred stop and fix your wandering eye And learn that death to old and young is near

The "Walkway" in the "Revolutionary Section" of the Chester Village Cemetery is now complete. The "Walkway" is 90% wheelchair accessible, 10% accessible to users of walkers, crutches and canes. A good number of monuments are attributed to Abel Webster, a Yanee stone mason, buried elsewhere in the cemetary. Monuments attributed to Abel Wester are marked with an asterisk (*).

From the "West Gate" on Rte 121:

(1) West Wilkes, served in the Battle of Bennington, and at the taking of Ft. Ticonderoga.
(2) West Joseph
(3) "Table-top" monuments to Rev. John Willimas and his wife Jean Williams.
(4) John Webster *.
(5) Hannah Wester (1760) monument signed at base by Stephen Webster, brother of Abel Webster, also a monument maker.
(6) Three small *
(7) Four Robie monuments*
(8) Samuel Bartlett (1762)*
(9) Eleanor (1773), Elizabeth Colby (1778)*
(10) Benjamin Dearborn (1760)*
(11) Thomas (1744) and Jean (1750) Gleen*
(12) Karr Family, four monuments, each with epitaph
(13) Blasdell Family, three monuments*
(14) Jacob Sargent (1749)*
(15) Enoch Colby (1780)

The Chester Village Cemetary "Walkway" was designed by, and came into being through the efforts of Col. R. D. Benton, Chester, NH and was completed on the 14th of July, 1999.

# Spring Hill Farm Conservation Area

Miss Muriel Church, retired schoolteacher and resident of Chester for over 80 years, donated her entire 400-acre farm and buildings to the Town of Chester four years ago. Miss Church did so with only one stipulation - that it never be developed and forever remain as farmland and open space for the benefit and enjoyment of the residents of Chester. Last year, the "Chester Academy" was dedicated in Miss Church's honor for her years of service and dedication to the Town.

The "Derry Trail Riders" have use the property for many years for their camping and horseback riding event that they hold twice a year. Many of you have probably seen them along the roadways during their biannual ride on Chester's roads and trails. Others use the property for bird watching, hiking or just enjoying nature by being outside in the woods and fields.

Every resident that pays property taxes or enjoy the scenic views as they drive or walk past the properties located on Towle Road and Lane Road is in debt to Miss Church for her dedication and selfless donation to the people of this Town. The 400 acres, had it been sold for development, would have certainly resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars added to the school budget from the additional school children moving into these homes.

The "Spring Hill Farm Trustees" is a group of Chester residents that meet with Miss Church to help her oversee the property. We would like to thank all the citizens who volunteered their time and resources to help at the farm and to also thank the members of the Wilcomb-Townsend Home Trust for their continuing assistance in maintaining the historic farmhouse.

Respectively submitted,

Miss Church
Colin Costine
Rick Murray
Wayne Towle
Brad Wamsley

# Educational Trust for Chester, New Hampshire

Since 1992, we have been riding the learning curve of non-profit existence. The idea is just getting started in neighboring towns with similar agendas.

We are all very new at this process, and very proud of our recent accomplishments. The trust funded a foreign language program for grades 3 through 6 with community support.

The Chester Literary Digest continues to offer the children a chance to publish and is our means of communication to the town. This exists through your membership. It means a great deal to us when a new member joins or an old friend renews.

The Town of Chester has the depth of spirit that makes it's Trust work. We meet once a month and discuss issues and ideas. Please come join us.

Sincerely,
Joanne S. Greer

**THE EDUCATIONAL TRUST**
**BOARD MEMBERS**

Kiki Branley
Janice Burke
Sue Folsom
Joanne Greer
Janet Gregsak
Lorna Hazelton
Pat McLean

# Report of the Chester Road Name Advisory Committee

This committee was informally created in the Eighty's to assist with street numbering and correction of street names to comply with 9-1-1 requirements. The results of this task performed by John Colman, Evelyn Noyes, Red Dolloff, Colonel Benton, Frank Wise and Scott Rice was presented to, and accepted by, the Town Meeting.

A suggested list of historical names to be used for new roads was published in Appendix A of the Chester Regulations and Ordinances. The town was divided into quadrants which were each assigned a generic list of items suggested for road names which would distinguish a certain part of town – for example: Raven Drive and White Tail Lane (birds and animals) are in the Northeast Quadrant; types of roads were also listed, such as drive, lane, road, etc. The purpose of the quadrants was to assist emergency personnel in locating the emergency quickly.

Last year, recognizing the need to continue this work and also provide an historic and logical basis to naming roads in the many new subdivisions, the Selectmen appointed a Road Name Advisory Committee to review and advise them on proposed road names.

Since April of 1999, the Committee has researched the background of many of the historic names suggested on the list. Some road names have been approved based on a developer's own research into the history of the location. A number of roads have been named for native shrubs, plants, and animals.

Originally, the Committee felt that a person/family should be deceased to be honored by having a road named for them, however, upon reconsideration and believing that this condition was overly restrictive, the Committee has amended its original guidelines. Now, if in the opinion of the committee, a family has made significant contributions to the town over the years, a road may be named to recognize that family.

Although the Committee does not meet on any regular basis, the meetings are open to the public and every effort is made to advertise them at the Library and on Channel 51. Anyone wishing to ask about a road name or offer any name for consideration should contact Judy Balk at the library (887-3404) or Camilla Lockwood at 887-3271.

Your comments and thoughts are always welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

John Colman, Chair
Judy Balk
Gregory Lowell
Colin Costine

Evelyn Noyes, Vice Chair
Sara D'Agostino
Ann Parnell
Gladys Nicoll
Camilla Lockwood, Liaison, Planning Board

# Strategic Land Protection Committee (SLPC)

The Strategic Land Protection Committee was formed as a result of a Warrant Article overwhelmingly approved at the 1997 Town Meeting. This Warrant Article established a Conservation Fund to be funded from revenues collected from the Land Use (Current Use) Change Tax at a maximum level of $20,000 per fiscal year. (Towns were authorized to dedicate funds for conservation from the Land Use Change Tax by RSA 79-A:25-a which was enacted by the state legislature in 1992.) The fund is utilized for the preservation and protection of open space through acquisition of conservation easements, development rights or title to land and for all associated costs. The Warrant Article also established the Strategic Land Protection Committee for the responsibility to identify strategic parcels of land most suitable for protection and to administer expenditures from the Conservation Fund for this purpose. The Committee consists of one Selectmen, one Planning Board member, two Conservation Commission members and one member of the public.

Subsequently, a Warrant Article was approved at the 1999 Town Meeting to remove the $20,000 annual cap and authorized the deposit of 100% of Current Use Change Tax revenues into the Conservation Fund. Unfortunately, New Hampshire RSA's did not permit collection of these additional funds until April 1, 2000. The fund balance on March 1, 2000 was approximately $38,000.

The SLPC has performed a thorough review of all parcels of land in Chester and has established specific criteria to assess the strategic importance of all parcels for protection. The four most important criteria are (a) size of the parcel, (b) adjacency to other protected parcels, (c) accessibility (likelihood of loss to development) and (d) watershed characteristics.

The SLPC has assisted in the protection of two strategic parcels over the past year. The Conservation Fund was utilized to defray some of the costs associated with the purchase of development rights for over 60 acres of the Dolloff Dairy Farm. More recently, the SLPC assisted Mr. George Herrick with his donation to the Town of his 33-acre property on Parsonage Lane. This parcel contains within its boundaries several small ponds and streams and also contains a portion of the headwaters of the Exeter River. A conservation easement has been placed on this parcel to provide permanent protection and it will be officially dedicated as "Herrick Woods" in the summer of 2000.

Currently, the SLPC is actively involved with the protection of four strategic parcels. One project is the placement of a conservation easement and purchase of

development rights for a 20.4 acre portion of the "Colburn property" located on Route 102 near the Derry town line. This parcel of productive agricultural land had been proposed for development into an 11-lot subdivision. Purchase of development rights will limit this parcel to one additional house lot and will permanently protect this highly visible property. Since the SLPC does not have sufficient resources to fund the entire amount of this project, a Warrant Article will ask voters to approve funding of 50% of the costs to acquire these development rights. The remaining 50% will be funded through a proposed combination of Federal farmland protection matching funds, grants and the SLPC. The SLPC is also actively assisting three Chester landowners who have expressed an interest in permanent protection and a desire to place a conservation easement on their property.

The SLPC will assist interested landowners through the legal process of preparing an easement document and completing a property survey or title search if necessary. If the property meets the criteria for protection and is approved by the SLPC, all direct costs associated with the establishment of a conservation easement will be paid from the conservation fund.

The SLPC meets monthly (usually on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.) in the Chester Town Offices Meeting Room. All meetings are open to the public. Property owners interested in general information about conservation easements or are interested in permanent protection for their land may attend a meeting, contact the Office of the Selectmen or contact a member of the SLPC. Informational brochures will also be available at the Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

David Hardy, Chairperson
Maureen Lein
Charlotte Lister
Evan Sederquest
Richard Uncles

# Chester Community Food Pantry

The Chester Community Food Pantry is jointly run by the Congregational-Baptist Church and St. Jerome's Mission. Our purpose is to provide food for any Chester family who finds they are in need of our service. Our families are referred to us by Town Officials, the Village School, both Churches and the Community Action Office. The Food Pantry has been operating since 1982 through the monetary support of individuals, local area clubs and businesses. Annual food drives by the Boy Scouts, rural mail carriers and school families keep the shelves well stocked. The Library also helps by requesting food instead of fines for overdue books.

Boxes of holiday foods are prepared for families at Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Christmas presents donated by members from both churches are also included. When possible Gift Certificates for each family are included.

Jeanne Jenkins, who can be reached at 887-3793, is presently in charge of the Chester Community Food Pantry and is assisted by Ellen DePalma of St. Jerome's Mission. Information can be obtained by calling the Church Office at 887-4799.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanne Jenkins

# Report of Sexual Assault Support Services

Sexual Assault Support Services is dedicated to supporting victims/survivors in their effort to heal from the trauma of sexual assault and childhood sexual abuse, while striving to prevent the occurrence of sexual violence in local communities and in society at large.

This mission is accomplished by providing the following services:

- toll-free confidential 24 hour crisis intervention hotline 1-(888)-747-7070;
- outreach office for Strafford County located in Rochester at One Wakefield Street (332-0775);
- accompaniment to medical and legal (police and court) appointments;
- information and referral to related services such as attorneys and therapists;
- support groups for survivors, their parents and partners;
- child sexual assault prevention education programs in area schools, recreation programs, camps and scouts;
- adolescent workshops on sexual harassment and sexual assault;
- professional training and consultation to police departments, hospital and school personnel and human service agencies;
- sexual harassment in the workplace workshops to municipalities and businesses.

Our program is committed to providing support, education and advocacy to all survivors of sexual assault and sexual abuse and their parents, partners and other community members.

The primary objectives of Sexual Assault Support Services are to empower survivors and to support them in their healing process and to educate the community, heightening awareness of sexual assault and its prevention. We provide prevention programs throughout the school system in order to broaden awareness among students, teachers and the community of the issues of sexual assault and harassment. In addition, our staff coordinates with police departments and hospital staff to improve response to sexual assault cases and to assure a supportive environment for the survivors.

Sexual Assault Support Services has provided services for 20 years. Volunteers are welcome and are utilized in all aspects of the program.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Stradling, Executive Director
Sexual Assault Support Services
Junkins Ave
Portsmouth, NH 03801
(603) 436-4107

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

**FIRE: Emergency # 911** **887-3878** Non-Emergency (Fire House)

Permits required for all open fires. Arrangements for permits may be obtained by calling:

| Bruce McLaughlin | Stephen Tunberg | Scott St. Clair | Steven Childs |
|---|---|---|---|
| 887-4626 | 887-5790 | 887-4556 | 887-4558 |

## MEDICAL

Derry Area Ambulance Service: 911
Parkland Medical Center: 432-1500
Poison Center, Mary Hitchcock Hospital, Hanover, NH: 643-4000
Rockingham Visiting Nurse Association: 432-7776

## TOWN FACILITIES

Recycling/Transfer Station, Route 102
Saturdays 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wednesday Evenings - to be announced

## LIBRARY

Phone 887-3404
Mon 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Tues 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Wed 6 p.m.-9 p.m.; Thurs 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-1 p.m. (During school sessions)
Closed Saturdays in July & August

## CHURCH SERVICES

Chester Congregational Baptist Church, 4 Chester Street
Sunday School 9:15 a.m. - Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
St. Jerome's Mission at Chester Congregational Baptist Church
Lord's Day Mass - Saturday 5:45 p.m.
Fellowship Bible Church, Rod and Gun Club Road
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m. - Evening Service 6:00 p.m. - Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

## MEETINGS/OFFICE HOURS

(Town Hall Closed When School is Canceled Due to Snow
and for State of New Hampshire Holidays)

**Selectmen Meetings:** Monday Nights (As Posted) - 7 p.m. at Town Hall
Please call 887-4979 for an appt., Office open Mon - Fri 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Town Clerk & Tax Collector -** Mon, Wed, & Fri: 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tues 8 a.m.-4 p.m Phone 887-3636

**Fire Meeting -** 1st Tuesday of the month; Firehouse

**Zoning Board of Adjustment -** 3rd Wednesday of the month.
Office Hours: Mon and Thurs (after 7/1) - 10 a.m.-12 noon. Phone 887-5629

**Planning Board -** 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesday of the month.
Office Hours: Tues 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Wed and Thurs 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Phone 887-5629

**Building Inspector/Zoning Office -** Office behind Post Office
Office Hours: Mon and Wed - 8 a.m.-12 noon; Fri 10:30 a.m.- 12 noon
Field inspections conducted after 12 noon. Phone 887-5552

Office of the Selectmen
Chester, NH 03036

University of New Hampshire
Miline Special Collections
The University Library
18 Library Way
Durham, NH 03824-3592